

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

The PRESIDENT (Hon. T.J. Stephens) took the chair at 14:16 and read prayers.

The PRESIDENT: We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia, and their connection to the land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to the elders both past and present.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

The PRESIDENT: I direct that the written answers to questions be distributed and printed in *Hansard*.

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (14:18): I bring up the 26th report of the committee.

Report received.

Ministerial Statement

AUSTRALIA-UNITED KINGDOM FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:18): I table a ministerial statement made in the other place by the Minister for Trade and Investment.

Question Time

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:19): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development a question about issues impacting the South Australian wine industry.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: An article headlined 'We'll crack on refund costs, say wineries' by Catherine Birmingham, published on 22 May of this year in *The Advertiser*, sets out concerns from local industry about the costs associated with the possible expansion of the container deposit scheme in South Australia and includes the comment:

There's already wineries that are pushed to the wall...the increased cost right now is really going to be difficult, particularly for small producers.

My questions to the minister are:

1. At a time when the South Australian wine industry is doing it tough with high costs and trade restrictions to key markets, why is the state government considering inflicting more pain on this critical industry through higher regulatory and operational costs?
2. Does the minister agree with concerns from the wine industry that costs associated with the expansion of the container deposit scheme could threaten some of the 650 wineries or more than 9,000 South Australians directly employed by grapegrowing and winemaking?
3. What actions will the minister undertake to protect the key wine regions across South Australia from higher costs imposed on the wine industry?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:20): I thank the honourable member for her question. Although

I am not sure she actually used the words, I think she is referring to the container deposit scheme. It might have been useful to say that if that's indeed what she is referring to.

The Hon. N.J. Centofanti: I said the container deposit scheme.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: You did? You need to say it a little bit more clearly then. It could be that one or two members in this place haven't had enough sleep—it's entirely possible that that's the case. There has been a discussion around a potential for the container deposit scheme to be expanded to wine bottles and that discussion has been happening for a number of years. I think it has perhaps been brought to the fore recently because, in my view, disappointingly, Queensland has now decided to proceed with including wine and spirit bottles in the Queensland container deposit scheme from later this year.

I say disappointed because a lot of the discussions that have been happening—I will point out that it is the direct responsibility of the Minister for Environment and Water in the other place—nationally, as I am advised, have been around the benefits and preference, particularly of the industry, that if it was to be extended that it would be a national scheme, rather than different in each state or territory jurisdiction. I think there are considerable concerns and rightly placed concerns about the impact that such a scheme would have on the wine industry. We are very aware that there are currently a great number of challenges for the wine industry, particularly for the production of red wine grapes.

In terms of the Queensland situation, I can assure producers that the state government will continue to work with industry through this process. Implementing the changes required to be compliant so that wine can go into Queensland under the new container deposit scheme arrangements would represent, I am advised, about an \$8.48 million investment by South Australian wineries.

South Australia's growing spirits sector will also be impacted by these changes. The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), my department, is working with the South Australian Spirit Producers' Association to understand the impacts on industry. I think it is worth mentioning that South Australian wine and spirit producers have demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainability for the whole supply chain.

I will certainly continue to work with respective industry bodies to understand the short to medium term impact on their sectors and continue to be in discussions with the Minister for Environment and Water in the other place about this. I can say that at the moment there have not been any plans progressed to my knowledge to expand the scheme here in South Australia and, indeed, the minister in the other place has mentioned on a number of occasions that she was keen to see the outcome of a number of trials and pilots of different ways to address the issue, which is a significant issue, of glass bottles going into landfill and not having appropriate recycling.

One thing that I realise some people might not be aware of is that although there is not a deposit scheme on wine and spirit bottles they can still be recycled at recycling depots. I just put that on the record so that anyone who is not aware might be able to spread the word around that. People taking their wine or spirit bottles to a recycling depot won't get money back for them, because we don't have a container deposit on them at the moment, but they can still take them there to be recycled, which I think is certainly one small step that people can participate in to address this issue, which is a very difficult one.

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:25): Supplementary: can the minister elaborate on what she means when she says she is working with the industry through the process of the changes associated with Queensland, and in particular are there any supports that her government is providing the industry?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:25): On the day that Queensland announced their changes, I was actually in Queensland. It was, as I mentioned, very disappointing to hear, and I think it was that day that my staff and I were in contact with wine associations. If it wasn't that day, it was certainly the next day, and we continue to have those discussions about the impacts. Of course, depending

on how much is going into Queensland from South Australia from a particular winery will obviously impact the extent of difficulties that might arise. We will continue to have those discussions with the industry and work through how that can be best managed.

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:26): Supplementary: is the minister doing anything other than having discussions?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:26): I am sorry to hear that the Leader of the Opposition doesn't think that consultation is important. I think it is very important to have frequent ongoing discussions with industry, whether that be with peak bodies or whether it be with individual businesses. I will continue to engage with stakeholders in this sector, continue to have that consultation.

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (14:26): Supplementary: which key stakeholders have you engaged with and when?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:26): Among others, I refer to my earlier answer. I appreciate that everyone is a little tired today and perhaps weren't listening either. I certainly couldn't hear the first part of the question.

The Hon. H.M. Girolamo: You said stakeholders and people. You said a very generic response. I am asking for specifics, not just waffle.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I mentioned that on the very day that Queensland announced this my office and myself were in contact with industry stakeholders. It was either that day or the day after.

EYRE PENINSULA DESALINATION PROJECT

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:27): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding the planned desalination plant in Boston Bay.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: I have received communications from local aquaculture stakeholders and businesses concerned that they have not heard directly from the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to discuss the planned Eyre Peninsula desalination plant and the impact on their operations. My question to the minister is: can the minister inform the chamber how many, if any, local aquaculture stakeholders or businesses she has engaged with or consulted with as Minister for Primary Industries regarding the government's plan to ignore community consultation and place the Eyre Peninsula desalination plant in Boston Bay?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:28): I thank the honourable member for her question. I am happy to take on notice and bring back to the chamber details of how many aquaculture stakeholders have contacted my office in regard to this. Certainly, a number of pieces of communication that I have had have been copied to me because they have been addressed to the Minister for Environment and Water, as obviously this falls within her portfolio area.

Secondly, it is something that, as has been mentioned on multiple occasions in this place, is being worked through. I understand and appreciate, of course, the concerns of stakeholders, but research conducted by the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) has found that the desalination plant can be built at Billy Lights Point without negatively impacting the local marine environment. Oceanographic modelling by SARDI shows that when the plant is operational long-term salinity levels will remain within natural background levels.

I appreciate the advocacy that has come through. SA Water committed to working with the aquaculture industry to ensure the design of Billy Lights Point does not affect their industry. In fact, three public marine science forums were held in Port Lincoln throughout the day on Tuesday 2 May this year. They were held at different times of the day, one in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, to allow for a range of people to attend. SA Water led those forums, or fora, while SARDI's lead oceanographer and executive director were also present, as well as members of the Marine Science Review Panel.

I think it is worth noting that SARDI and SA Water are being very transparent around the science. They have held, as I have just outlined, a combined six hours' worth of forums so that any member of the public could have attended, and of course the engagement will continue.

EYRE PENINSULA DESALINATION PROJECT

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:31): Supplementary: as minister for fisheries, do you not think you have the responsibility to have direct contact with and listen to the concerns of the aquaculture industry that has the potential to be affected by your government's decision?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:31): I think that the industries are keen to engage around the science in regard to the concerns around impacts to aquaculture. As I just outlined, the scientific reports have indicated that there won't be the level of impacts that were feared. I think it's also worth pointing out that those opposite are clearly happy to have an additional \$150 million on the taxpayer bill, which is what it would be if the proposed Sleaford West site was instead chosen.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: So I hear that those opposite are saying an extra \$150 million is absolutely okay with them. I guess that does indicate their level of fiscal responsibility.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:32): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development a question on farming.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: In *The Australian* on Tuesday it was reported that Labor Party branches are mobilising to pressure the Labor government to halve emissions from agriculture and end native forest logging and land clearing in a motion which is expected to be put to the party's national conference in August. This motion seeks to create a new land-based emissions reduction strategy and involves developing a land industry carbon plan, ending land clearing and deforestation and reducing methane gases produced by the agricultural sector.

We have already seen in the federal budget the introduction of new taxes on our truckies freighting our agricultural goods, as well as taxes on our farmers to fund biosecurity measures. My question to the minister is: as Minister for Primary Industries in South Australia does she support the motion put forward by Labor Party branches?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:33): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for her question. I think she is referring to Labor Party branches' motions. I am not sure how many Labor Party branches there are around the country, but certainly I think there are—

The Hon. R.A. Simms: They're dwindling after last night.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —at least 47 here in South Australia.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Simms!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Potentially, that could refer then to at least 47 different motions in South Australia alone, if indeed the information she has is accurate. She is talking about Labor Party branches' motions from around the country, which could be any number. If she has a specific motion she wants to refer to, then perhaps she should have provided that.

Of course, native forestry logging is something that has had a lot of attention in recent years, in fact probably in recent decades. Of course, here in South Australia—the Leader of the Opposition may not be aware—we don't have native forestry logging. All of our logging in South Australia is done from sustainable plantations that are planted and replanted.

In fact, the industry is one of the most sustainable in the world in terms of the sustainability of our forest industries. It is also worth noting how much the agricultural industry is already committed to reducing methane gases and to reducing emissions. It is something that I have been delighted to have ongoing discussions on with the various stakeholders in the agricultural sector, and I know our government has been keen to work with all different industries in terms of reducing emissions across all industries here in South Australia.

Of course, we have a number of climate action bodies. In fact, there was a conference very recently here in Adelaide; PIRSA was part of that conference. We, of course, on this side of the chamber continue to invest in improving sustainability, reducing emissions, so that we have a better and healthier future for our state and our nation.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:35): Supplementary: the minister didn't answer my question. Does the minister support the motion put forward by Labor Party branches—yes or no?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:36): Again, as I stated in my first answer, if the Leader of the Opposition has a specific motion she is referring to, perhaps she should actually inform the chamber of that. This vague 'Labor Party branches' could refer to any of many hundreds of branches of Labor Party members around the nation—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —and what they are referring to. If she doesn't know what she is asking, perhaps she shouldn't ask the question until she does.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Attorney, enough of the commentary.

The Hon. K.J. Maher: I'm trying to help, sir.

The PRESIDENT: No, you're not, you are not helping.

SPEAK SAFELY

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:37): My question is for the Attorney-General. Will he please inform the council about the new online reporting tool called Speak Safely that has been launched by the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:37): I thank the honourable member for his important question. I would be very pleased to inform the chamber about the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner's recent launch of a new online free and anonymous reporting tool called Speak Safely, created for lawyers and others working in the legal profession, to provide an ability to anonymously report instances of inappropriate personal behaviour.

The newly available tool is accessible through the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner's website and enables victims, witnesses and other concerned parties to report inappropriate behaviour. People witnessing such inappropriate behaviour or are subject to the behaviour in the legal profession are still encouraged, if a person feels comfortable, to make a formal complaint through the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner's website, which is a different process from the anonymous reporting that this new facility allows.

The Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner recognises that there may be barriers, however, to making a formal complaint, which was previously the only option available where people potentially have feared any negative implications or repercussions from embarking on an official complaint process proceeding. This new platform aims to break down some of these barriers.

The online reporting tool now allows anyone making a report to provide as much or as little detail as they are comfortable with, and the option remains also of making a formal complaint to embark on the official complaint proceedings. Importantly, this new online anonymous reporting tool is in keeping with the recommendations of the Acting Commissioner for Equal Opportunity's report. In 2021, the Review of Harassment in the Legal Profession noted overwhelming support for an anonymous reporting system to help address the serious and under-reported problems in the legal profession.

The data collected by the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner through this new anonymous reporting tool will also be able to contribute to guiding any further steps needed to be taken by the commissioner. The government views these sorts of inappropriate behaviours as totally unacceptable, and it is very pleased that the commissioner has been able to bring this important change to fruition. It is one of a number of steps in attempting to stamp out the behaviour in this profession.

Anyone who has experienced sexual harassment, discrimination or bullying in the legal profession but who is unwilling to make a formal complaint is now able to and encouraged to use the Speak Safely tool in the first instance, as well as all other supports that are available.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (14:39): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on the topic of her department's response to climate change and the climate emergency.

Leave granted.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Simms, you haven't started very well today.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: I am not sure if he is aiding or abetting me at this point.

The PRESIDENT: No, exactly. Stop harassing your colleague.

The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: In March this year, the IPCC released their climate report, A Survival Guide for Humanity. This report, of course, brings into sharp focus the losses and damages caused by climate change, which are hitting the most vulnerable people and ecosystems especially hard. Climate scientists have urged for immediate action that can be taken now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to human-caused climate change.

The power of governments to reduce barriers to lowering greenhouse gas emissions through public funding and clear signals to investors, and scaling up tried and tested policy measures, is emphasised in that report. Climate-driven food and water insecurity is expected to grow with increased warming. When the risks combine with other adverse events, such as pandemics or conflicts, they become even more difficult to manage.

Changes in the food sector, industry, buildings and land use are highlighted as important ways to cut emissions, as well as moves to low-carbon lifestyles, which will, of course, improve health

and wellbeing. Clearly, primary industries and the regions are key to our state's response to this climate emergency, and I note that we have a declared climate emergency in both houses of this parliament.

I note that the minister's department is contributing to the Climate Change Action Plan of the South Australian government, including a Growing Carbon Farming Pilot of \$1 million. Could she please outline the full complement of projects that are within the Climate Change Action Plan of the South Australian government that come from her department?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:41): I thank the honourable member for her question. I am very pleased that she is acknowledging some of the work that my department has been doing in terms of climate change. It is certainly something that I think everyone is well aware of the challenges, and also the need for action. Indeed, at one of my speeches at a conference to Adelaide University agricultural students last year, it was clear that that cohort is incredibly aware of the challenges that we are facing, not only as a state and a nation but internationally, globally, and is very keen to be part of the solution.

There are a wide number of projects and programs which my department is either looking after or is feeding into, and I am happy to bring back more details about some of those for the honourable member. She did mention the carbon farming pilot, which is a million-dollar investment initiative to encourage carbon farming adoption, and also to build the carbon market here in South Australia.

There is a grants component of that program that is providing up to \$100,000 to at least six projects to help cover establishment costs, and that includes things such as technical advice and also carbon measurement. The outcomes of the pilot are increased industry knowledge and awareness of South Australia's carbon farming opportunities, and that is by demonstrating methods that have the greatest applicability to South Australia. I think that is a really important point. People who are running their enterprises here in South Australia do need to be assured that any initiatives are relevant directly to their circumstances, whether that is the particular climatic conditions here in South Australia or in their area of South Australia, whether it is the soil conditions, and so on.

Delivery of extension activities, including workshops, field days, and a case study for each pilot carbon project funded, to address the current knowledge and capacity gaps that are limiting uptake of carbon farming in South Australia, is another outcome that we are seeking, and also the demonstration of the direct financial value of carbon farming to the enterprise. We are also wanting to find increased industry knowledge and awareness of the social, economic, environmental and First Nations co-benefits of carbon farming activities in South Australia.

We are hoping to attract significant co-investment from commercial and industry partners to leverage funding outcomes. I understand the pilot had 27 applications, and they spanned a diverse range of agricultural commodities as well as South Australian regions. Applications include a variety of project types, with soil carbon sequestration and revegetation accounting for most of the activities identified. The AgTech Growth Fund has also had a new round of grants opened. If I recall correctly, that was particularly for projects that would address climate change.

I have also spoken in this place—in fact, only this week—about the Trees on Farms Initiative within the forestry sector of my portfolio. We know, of course, that trees sequester carbon and that sustainable plantation forestry is an excellent way to increase sequestration, knowing as we do that the products processed continue to store that carbon within them. Those are just some of the activities we are involved in at the moment. I also mentioned the conference PIRSA was involved in very recently, and we will continue to engage on these important matters.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:46): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries a question regarding farming.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.S. LEE: According to the Labor Environment Action Network group, there has been a motion put forward to the Labor government calling on the Labor government to:

1. Create a climate strategy for the land sector, working with the National Reconstruction Fund, the Powering the Regions Fund and the zero emissions task force to develop an industry plan for a world-leading land carbon industry, which would create thousands of good regional jobs in managing land, forests and mangroves for carbon, and significantly expand our plantation base.
2. Move to 100 per cent plantation timber and end broadscale land clearing before the next federal election, creating uplift in regional employment and industrial diversification.
3. Work with the agricultural sector to halve methane emissions from agriculture by 2030.

My question to the minister is: as the Minister for Primary Industries responsible for South Australia, does she support the motion put forward by the Labor Environment Action Network?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:47): I congratulate the Deputy Leader of the Opposition for actually having a specific motion to refer to, unlike her leader in this place. In fact, we probably could have addressed this question much earlier in question time—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —if the leader had been adequately prepared. I think it's important that we do have climate strategies going forward. As we know, the challenges of climate change are significant, and it is really important that we are working with industries to assist them in terms of improving outcomes in regard to climate change. Having an industry plan is a logical step towards that.

Part of the question read out by the deputy leader in this place referred to having 100 per cent plantation timber. As I have already outlined, here in South Australia our commercial industry is 100 per cent plantation based. In terms of working with industry, with agriculture, to reduce emissions, that is something we have already covered today in terms of the importance of that and how we can work with the different industries. A number of initiatives are already in place to help with that transition.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:49): Supplementary: does the minister support the motion—yes or no?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:49): I think I have already answered that question.

DOG FENCE

The Hon. J.E. HANSON (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Would the minister update the chamber about her recent visit to inspect the dog fence in the state's Far North?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:49): I thank the honourable member for his question, and I note his ongoing interest in a number of industries around the area. He is a frequent visitor to Port Augusta, and I know he has established a number of excellent relationships with various stakeholders in that area and I'm sure that, in part, feeds into his interest in the dog fence.

The South Australian dog fence is a key asset that protects the state's \$4.3 billion livestock industry by stopping wild dogs and other predators from migrating into land used for sheep production. Last week, I had the opportunity to visit a section of this vast and large fence to look at some of the work that has occurred on this key asset and also, very usefully, to talk with some members of the Dog Fence board. I have met with a number of them previously. A number of them

were camping out for, I think, five days as part of their program and then they were having a board meeting at the end of the trip.

The trip was timely, given that I was pleased to recently announce with the federal Minister for Agriculture, Senator Murray Watt, that the rebuild is receiving a \$2.67 million funding boost through new disaster support as a result of the recent flooding that occurred to parts of the fence. The funding, jointly funded by the commonwealth and state governments, will help with the continuation of flood repairs on the fence along the Eyre Peninsula section.

The dog fence in South Australia stretches an incredible distance, from the Great Australian Bight in the west, across the state to the New South Wales border in the east. In total, that distance is 2,150 kilometres. To put into perspective just what that means, it would be quicker to walk from Adelaide to Brisbane than to walk the total length of the dog fence here in South Australia.

The Hon. K.J. Maher: That's remarkable.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: That is remarkable, as the Hon. Mr Maher mentions. I will just repeat that because it is quite remarkable: it would be quicker to walk from Adelaide to Brisbane than to walk the total length of the South Australian portion of the dog fence.

An incredible amount of work has gone into rebuilding this fence, with portions of the fence prior to the rebuild being over 100 years old. That was particularly interesting to see on the visit there last week. We could see the newest parts of the fence. We could see some of the areas that had been rebuilt previously and had various fixes and patches and also some parts of the fence that were over 100 years old—over 100 years old. A lot of those were constructed with timber from the local native pine.

It is quite remarkable, as the honourable leader in this place is agreeing with me. Seeing some of those pieces of wood that had been taken from local trees over 100 years ago still standing and supporting some parts of the old fence was quite amazing and incredibly good to see. Many parts of the fence, of course, had aged and were, obviously, susceptible to damage by kangaroos, feral camels, emus and wild dogs, along with weather events, such as flooding and sand erosion.

One of the other key challenges with the rebuild is simply the terrain and the remoteness of the area. Obviously, that presents challenges in getting supplies to each part of the fence and also the labour to undertake the work. One of the members of the dog fence explained that, when it was originally built, of course, people were doing it absolutely manually. Just imagine being out there, in an incredibly remote area—it's an incredibly remote area—and building this fence metre by metre using just the tools that were available over a century ago.

So far, over 770 kilometres has been rebuilt and further work on more than 200 kilometres is set to commence shortly. Completion of the complete rebuild that is being funded is expected to occur by June 2025. Last week, I was fortunate to visit the Roxby Downs Station section as well as the Stuarts Creek, Billa Kalina and Parakylia sections of the fence and to inspect some of the new fencing that has recently been installed over the last few months. I was joined on this trip by hardworking Dog Fence Board members: Geoff Power, who is chair and has been an absolute stalwart of the Dog Fence Board for many years, and Christobel Treloar, Peter Whittlesea and Peter Lawrie.

I would also like to thank Craig Trowbridge and Peter Litchfield, chairs of their local dog fence boards, and Dog Fence Rebuild Committee members along with PIRSA staff Brad Page, Lindell Andrews, Geoff Thomas, Marty Bower and Ash Rees. Ash has a unique role in the dog fence rebuild, which I think is particularly worthy of mention. Every few weeks, Ash drives up from Adelaide and inspects a large section of the dog fence by driving the length of the fence to ensure there is no damage. That is a visual assessment. If there is a hole in the fence or other damages that need urgent repair, he may undertake the repair work on site.

He usually spends up to 10 days alone driving along the dog fence at any given time, undertaking these inspections. A large amount of work has gone into and continues to go into this project to ensure it is completed and continues its role in helping to protect our \$4.3 billion livestock industry. I want to thank everyone involved in this project. I am also pleased to report that during our trip out there, we did not see a single feral dog on either side of the fence. I look forward to being

able to provide further updates to what is a really important project. The works continue. This is incredibly important to our remote areas.

The PRESIDENT: Minister, I know that it is a very important subject, but we usually like to keep our answers to about four to five minutes.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Sorry, Mr President. I was very passionate about this remarkable project.

The PRESIDENT: I understand why you would be.

CRIME IN PORT AUGUSTA

The Hon. S.L. GAME (14:56): I seek leave to make a brief explanation prior to addressing questions to the Attorney-General and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs on crime in Port Augusta.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.L. GAME: On 8 March this year, I alerted this council and asked questions regarding reports of escalating crime and antisocial behaviour in Port Augusta. On 24 April 2023, the Attorney-General responded that, in addition to the community outreach program that has been implemented, further youth responses were planned, which included: one, extending the hours of the Port Augusta Youth Centre; two, extending the hours of the youth bus; three, the establishment of a community participation fund to support young people to engage in social activities; four, the establishment of an intensive youth support group for multiagency intensive case management; and five, the youth outreach service, with workers in the community after hours and on weekends. My questions to the Attorney-General are:

1. Have the further youth responses listed been implemented? If not, why not, and when will they be?
2. For those implemented, what are the up-to-date statistics on success factors?
3. What are the statistics on youth offending in Port Augusta, including how many youths have been charged since 1 January 2023, and what were they charged with?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:58): I thank the honourable member for her question. In relation to questions that relate to statistics to do with youth crime, I am happy to see if they are available. I am not certain they will be but, to the extent they are, I am happy to provide what I can for the honourable member.

In relation to youth programs in Port Augusta, as I outlined last time the questions were asked, the Minister for Human Services, who is responsible for youth programs, has been doing a lot of work in the Port Augusta region. I know she has spent a fair bit of time as of late in the Port Augusta region and is rolling out programs, so I will be more than happy to ask her the specifics of where the programs the honourable member has referred to are up to.

FARM TRESPASSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (14:59): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding farm trespassing by activists.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: At a recent Senate estimates hearing, the Chief Executive of Australian Pork Ltd revealed the alarming extent that animal activists can go to to disrupt their operations. Margo Andrae criticised extremist animal activists for their tactics, which included gaining access to their office by posing as plumbers, harassing her team on social media and via the phone, and taking photos of her team celebrating International Women's Day and posting it to their social media platforms labelling them 'murderers'.

Andrae has strongly voiced that such intimidation, bullying and incursions by activists should be called out and worries for the future of the farming community if those actions aren't addressed. My questions for the minister are:

1. Has the minister consulted with the agricultural industry about farmers' concerns over the extreme actions of animal activists, including harassment and intimidation of staff?
2. What is her government doing to provide assurance to farmers and agricultural businesses to ensure their safety on their own properties and that terrorising from radical animal activists will be dealt with appropriately?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:00): After having a quick chat to my colleague the Minister for Primary Industries I am happy to answer those questions and take a fair bit of that on notice, as much of what was referred to are elements of the criminal law: trespass and harassment. I know that there has been work done in this area in relation to trespass in the primary industries setting.

I will have to seek an update as to, if there is further work being done, where that is up to, but I am happy to do so. To the extent that it requires any coordination with other departments, including Environment, and to the extent that primary industries are involved with the criminal law, I will be happy to bring back a reply.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (15:01): My question is to the Attorney-General. Will the minister inform the council about the release of the review of the section 20A Criminal Law Consolidation Act offence of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:01): I would be pleased to do so. This parliament has recognised that the act of choking or strangulation is a very serious offence and often a precursor to domestic homicide offences. This parliament has previously acted to bring in new section 20A of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, creating a specific offence of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting.

I am happy to share with the council that there has been a recent review of section 20A of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act and it has now been published. In May of last year, we announced a review into the operation and effectiveness of section 20A of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 in relation to the offences of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting.

That review has been conducted, which gave careful consideration to both the operation and effectiveness of the strangulation offences, as well as considering feedback from entities such as South Australia Police and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions about charging and prosecuting, and particularly took into account sentencing remarks and judgements and considering data in relation to the offence.

I can report that the review has confirmed that South Australia's investigative and prosecution agencies are appropriately approaching their task in bringing these matters to court seriously and in accordance with the existing legislation. It is, however, apparent that there is further room to make sure it is ensured that the offence operates as effectively as possible and provides a powerful criminal justice response to the serious behaviour of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting.

I can announce that, as a result of the review, we have made a number of commitments to establishing a multiagency government working group to consider how to better support complainants involved in domestic and family violence prosecution, particularly in the context of the time it takes to proceed to trial for, in particular, those section 20A offences. This aims to address the high number of matters which are discontinued and looks to ensure the victim survivors are supported throughout the investigation and prosecution process.

The working group will also be tasked with looking at the need for further education about the impact and effects of strangulation, choking and suffocation for the legal community and judiciary.

We have also undertaken to address the uncertainty about what prosecutors are required to prove by amending the legislation to clarify the elements of the offence and to broaden them. This will make it clear that proof of restriction of breath is not required to establish the offence. This change is consistent with the medical information about the inherent dangers in applying pressure to a person's neck, as recognised in other jurisdictions.

Ensuring that strangulation offences operate effectively is essential when, as I said, we know that choking, suffocation or strangulation are often widely seen as a precursor to domestic homicide. In the not too distant future, I look forward to introducing a bill to make the legislative changes foreshadowed and for the working group to commence their considerations to look to ensure better outcomes in this area.

GAMBLING REGULATION

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (15:05): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Attorney-General and the Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs about regulation of gambling in the state.

Leave granted.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: Yesterday, the Auditor-General's report on gambling harm minimisation was tabled. It tells a sick and sorry story about the real harm gambling is causing in our community and deficiencies in the oversight of gaming and gaming machines. Worse, it shows that the government and its so-called regulator, the Office of Consumer and Business Services, are not doing their job effectively with regulatory compliance, including training for compliance inspectors, limited collection of risk assessment data, and a host of other issues identified by Mr Richardson.

It also highlights how much South Australians lost last year—a record \$1.5 billion, which equates to \$1,052 for every adult, with 60 per cent of those losses linked to gaming machines in hotels and clubs. The government scooped the pool with \$531 million in tax revenue, and that is expected to increase to \$582 million this financial year. Of that, a paltry 1 per cent, or \$5.38 million, was directed to the Gamblers Rehabilitation Fund, topped up to \$8.65 million after industry contributions. However, a tiny \$6 million was spent to fund gambling help services to tackle high-risk problem gamblers. My question is:

1. What is the minister doing to ensure her department is carrying out its duties to ensure full compliance in the management of gambling harm minimisation?
2. Why hasn't the government committed more to the rehabilitation fund?
3. Can the government provide complete full details on how and where that money in the fund is being spent, that is, a comprehensive breakdown of where the funds are being distributed and spent?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:07): I thank the honourable member for his question and his interest and advocacy in this area, that has been very longstanding, as it has been for SA-Best and its predecessor parties. I note the report that was distributed yesterday. Like, I think, a number of others, I flipped through the first few pages of recommendations as it was distributed, but I haven't had a chance to further look at the report, given not many of us have had a lot of time since we sat here about this time yesterday to do much else.

The Hon. F. Pangallo: You could have done it while I was speaking.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: It may well have been the case that there may have been what seemed like a number of decades when people could have done other things while the Hon. Frank Pangallo was speaking, as was interjected, but we were all riveted to the top nine plays in different areas and their synopses, as we were regaled with yesterday.

In relation to the important questions the honourable member has asked, I will, as he suggested, refer them to the minister in another place, the Hon. Andrea Michaels, the member for Enfield. Again, to the extent that information can be collated and provided, I will bring back a reply for the honourable member.

SENTENCING FOR VIOLENT OFFENDERS

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (15:09): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Attorney-General regarding sentencing in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: Last June, Max Staples and Jake Twohill proceeded to assault two men completely unprovoked—

An honourable member: My question: good one.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: Okay, thank you—which resulted in both victims requiring serious medical attention. One of the victims was a young father of three children who sustained significant brain damage as a result of the completely random and unprovoked attack after he was repeatedly kicked and hit in the head. On Monday just this week, despite pleading guilty to the assault, with the magistrate stating, and I quote, 'With more than 30 years on board, it's probably the most significant ongoing harm that I've ever seen', the convicted offenders avoided jail, instead receiving a two-year good behaviour bond.

My question to the Attorney-General is: does the Attorney-General consider it acceptable for convicted offenders who commit completely unprovoked, extremely violent attacks causing long-term injuries, including brain damage, to their victims to simply walk free from the courts?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:10): I thank the honourable member for his question, and I do acknowledge that he regularly asks questions in relation to this area and that he has long been concerned about the safety of the South Australian community. That is a credit to him. As we traversed over some of the reforms of the party he was formerly associated with—it had brought in reforms almost 20 years ago—it is acknowledged the work that has been done by the Hon. Dennis Hood and his predecessor in another party, Pastor Evans, who we spoke about yesterday.

I don't have information in relation to the specifics of the offenders and the sentence the honourable member mentioned. I think, as I've said before, it is very difficult to give answers with certainty and clarity, not having had the benefit of hearing all the evidence that is put forward, often over many weeks in a trial, often with dozens and dozens of witnesses and hearing every aspect of what constituted the offending, what all the reasons were.

So I'm not going to try to pass any sort of judgement or give reasons or proffer ideas about why a sentence may or may not have been handed down. However, I do note that in cases where sentences are manifestly inadequate or manifestly excessive an option remains for either party to a prosecution, the prosecution or the defendant, to appeal that sentence, and that does happen not infrequently.

That is part of the nature of our judicial system—that where something falls that far outside what you would reasonably expect from what sort of sentences that have been imposed, given the range that parliament has seen fit to put for various sentences in the past, it is not an unusual thing that appeals are taken. If sentences are manifestly inadequate, it is something that the Office of the Director for Public Prosecutions does very regularly—appeal sentences.

Again, I don't know the specifics of this or whether there was remand that was a factor and time served taken into account in a sentence, but as I have said I'm not going to try to substitute, not having had the benefit of, very likely, weeks of detailed evidence through dozens of witnesses presented. But as I said, I do acknowledge the honourable member's interest and concern in making sure that South Australia is as safe as it can be.

SENTENCING FOR VIOLENT OFFENDERS

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (15:13): Supplementary: thank you, Attorney, for the answer. Would the Attorney undertake to look at this matter and familiarise himself with the details in order to make a better assessment?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:13): What I am happy to do and what I might do in

this instance is forward on the *Hansard* to the Director of Public Prosecutions. It would be a highly unusual thing for me to instruct or seek that something be lodged, but it wouldn't be unusual for members of the community, victims' families or others to put forward views, and I will certainly be happy to forward the *Hansard* of the honourable member's question for the independent Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to have a look at and take into account what has been said here today.

SENTENCING FOR VIOLENT OFFENDERS

The Hon. C. BONAROS (15:14): Supplementary: is the Attorney able to ask the DPP for a report on the case that we have just outlined, given the issues he's just canvassed, and will the Attorney undertake to report back to this place about whether there are indeed any plans to appeal that sentence?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:14): I thank the honourable member for her question. I'm not going to start the habit of asking for reports and running commentaries on matters that have occurred from the Office of the Director for Public Prosecutions. However, I don't think it's unreasonable to ask whether any action has or has not been taken, so the second part I am happy to do.

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:14): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister tell the chamber about the RDA's regional leadership development program and the current program being run by RDA Murraylands and Riverland?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:15): I thank the honourable member for his question. I note that he has a particular interest in the Murraylands and we have participated in some different forums up there in the past. It was a pleasure to be able to stop by last week, along with the Premier, in Taillem Bend and meet participants of the RDA Murraylands and Riverland Regional Leadership Development Program (RLDP). The RLDP is funded by PIRSA, with the intent of supporting the development of leadership skills in our regional communities where either there is a gap or there is a cohort who would benefit from this opportunity.

The Murraylands and Riverland leadership program brought together leaders from across the region, with last week marking the initial two days of their eight-day program. The program also runs in varying lengths of time to suit the needs of participants, which I think is really important, with one-day and three-day courses also being available.

The program is tailored and targeted to the region it is being held in to develop leadership capacity and address skills gaps in leadership capabilities identified in those particular regions. The 30 participants taking part in the current RDA Murraylands and Riverland leadership program are from diverse backgrounds and experience, including from schools, community groups, private enterprise and large industry. Demand for the program was strong, as I am advised it has been across RDAs throughout the state.

A few of the future leaders in the Murraylands and Riverland that the Premier and I were pleased to join on the day included: Zane, who is an 18-year-old business owner who focuses on AgTech, specifically in artificial intelligence and weed control. His aim is to innovate the weed management sector with a selective sprayer, and he is already well on the way to achieving his goals, with multiple entrepreneurial awards to his name, including from the Ignite program, the National School Shark Tank and the eChallenge Rising Star. Overcoming many challenges already, he is an extraordinary young person who I think is probably destined for incredible things.

There was also Tracey, who spent 29 years working in the public sector in administration and HR roles. She recently resigned from government and is now running a small mobile catering business. She enjoys the country lifestyle and feels lucky to live within such a wonderful community in Murray Bridge, giving back to the community, with plans to start a women in business networking group, plans to bring people together for social events in town to support mental health and also

dedication to a local netball club, where she has served in multiple roles from president to coach and everything in between.

I would also like to mention Nicholas, a farmer from the Mallee, having built a career in agriculture over the past two decades, and he now owns a family business that has transitioned into the fourth generation of family ownership. He runs a multiple enterprise farming business producing broadacre crops, including wheat, barley and canola, and runs sheep and cattle. Nicholas has created employment opportunities and his business has supported organisations throughout his community. Having already held leadership roles, Nicholas recognised that this program was a good opportunity to gain professional advice and tools to further excel in these roles.

It would be wonderful to be able to highlight all the participants and their achievements to date, along with their future ambitions, but obviously time does not allow for that. But I want to acknowledge all the participants, who each have their own story to tell. It is a fantastic program, and the future of regional leadership across the state, and in particular in this case the Murraylands and Riverland, is clearly in good hands as the participants take an even greater role in their communities in the years to come. I would like to thank them for putting up their hands to further develop their leadership skills. I know they will continue to contribute to their local communities, and I am sure we will continue to see many diverse achievements from each and every one of them.

AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:19): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question without notice to the Attorney-General on the topic of raising the age of criminal responsibility.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: On 8 May 2023, the ACT government announced that they would introduce a bill to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 years of age. The bill proposes a two-stage rollout, with an initial step to raise the age to 12 on assent and then to 14 years of age by 1 July 2025. This comes after the Victorian government committed in April to raising the age of criminal responsibility to 14 within the next four years. When the ACT government announced their bill to raise the age of criminal responsibility, the Attorney in that state told ABC news, and I quote:

This is a significant reform [that] recognises...young people are not considered to have a full understanding of the implications of the activities...they might be involved in.

There [are] responsibilities under the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, there is clear medical evidence, and we think that young people should be supported, not criminalised.

My question to the Attorney-General therefore is: does the Attorney share the views of his ACT counterpart that young people should be supported, and not criminalised, in our justice system, and what progress has the Attorney-General made towards raising the age of criminal responsibility in South Australia? When will this parliament get an update?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:21): I am happy to provide an update to this council and acknowledge that this is something that the honourable member has a significant interest in and has pursued it in motions and legislation since he came into this place. I have outlined previously to this chamber that it is an issue that all states and territories are looking at.

Way back in November of 2021, under the former Attorney-General, the former member for Bragg in this parliament, attorneys-general from around the country supported work to develop a proposal, and to see how it would look, to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12 and, importantly, that work would look at having regard to any exemptions, timing and implementation requirements.

In August of last year, state and territory attorneys-general agreed to re-form a national working group to continue and further target looking at the work, particularly in relation to implementation requirements and what would come in the place of a criminal justice intervention. Certainly, I was pleased, and I have had the benefit of talking to not just the Attorney-General, who I think is a member of the honourable member's party in the ACT, but also members of the Labor

Party in the ACT who have been involved in the work in the ACT. It certainly is a significant amount of work that the ACT has undertaken, particularly the work in relation to what do you do if it is not a criminal justice response.

I think it is not just a case of raising the age in statute, which of course would be necessary to do, but also looking at the therapeutic and family supports that would come in its place, but also importantly, and this I know is what states are grappling with at the moment, what role is there for the criminal justice system? If you are raising the age of criminal responsibility, what role do elements of the criminal justice system play?

Family conferencing that the police use and all of the feedback and evidence is used quite successfully, and it is the case in what I have seen in South Australia that much of that first involvement of a young person with the family conferencing system is generally successful. It is the young people who are back a number of times that is where that more thorough work about the therapeutic or family supports needs to come in.

Earlier this year, attorneys-general met again, and included the Justice Policy Partnerships as part of that national working group; that is, to ensure that the knowledge and experience of the Justice Policy Partnerships would include First Nations people being involved more heavily in the work of that working group because, of course, the issue of detention of young people disproportionately affects Aboriginal young people, not just in South Australia but right across country.

So work does continue. I have to say that it is a more complex and challenging area of public policy than I expected when we came to government and started undertaking this work. As I said, what carve-outs or exemptions there might be if the age was raised, and if the minimum age of detention is raised what aspect would that play in the system? Probably most importantly, and the most complex part, is: what are the interventions, if they are not a criminal justice intervention? When we have done further work, I will be happy to update the chamber as this work progresses.

Matters of Interest

SAM SMITH CONCERT

The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:25): Today, I would like to highlight the recent tourism campaign disaster by the Labor government and their obsession with influencers. One of the opposition's main roles is to question the government of the day and hold them accountable. Any good government should uphold the highest level of transparency and accountability; however, this is not the case with this Malinauskas Labor government. There is no transparency, and there is no accountability. It is very disappointing that taxpayers are kept in the dark on how the government is using their money and for what purpose.

On Monday 29 May 2023, it was revealed that the \$32 million worth of advertising value that the Malinauskas Labor government claimed as an outcome of its exclusive, invite-only Sam Smith concert was completely bogus. The opposition's analysis of the tourism campaign results, which were obtained under freedom of information, shows that more than \$24.5 million of the estimated advertising value equivalent was generated by mostly negative coverage or was completely off topic.

What does that mean? It means that a huge 76 per cent of Labor's purported advertising benefit was actually for negative or unrelated coverage. One of the top-priced articles—valued at \$3.1 million—was about a concertgoer complaining that the Sam Smith event was ruined by bad behaviour from social media influencers, including one who allegedly 'peed in the mosh'.

One of the articles with the highest value—worth \$6.5 million—was about how the Malinauskas Labor government had refused to say how much taxpayer money was spent bringing royal couple Zara and Mike Tindall to South Australia. Other articles that made the cut include those titled, 'Dark side to Sam Smith concert unearthed' and 'Commercial-in-confidence is a poor excuse for state secrets', and many unrelated stories.

It is truly astounding that Labor believes that negative coverage is worth tens of millions of dollars, and it is quite insulting to South Australians when we were made to believe all publicity, including negative publicity, should be considered good publicity. We call on the Malinauskas Labor

government to go back and crunch those numbers again, because an article about a woman urinating in public cannot possibly be worth \$3 million. It is certainly not how we want to be selling South Australia to the world.

South Australia's Tourism Commission has failed to explain the calculations used to back up claims that the Sam Smith concert was a huge success. Secrecy surrounding the Sam Smith concert has attracted widespread criticism, with Labor continuing to keep taxpayers in the dark over how much they forked out for the private, exclusive party while South Australia is facing a cost-of-living crisis, a housing crisis and a ramping crisis.

The Malinauskas Labor government and Minister Zoe Bettison also claimed that the Sam Smith event 'resulted in a potential global audience reach of 1.58 billion'. This is another absolutely ridiculous claim, because that means that the Sam Smith concert attracted 80 million more viewers than the FIFA World Cup final—seriously bogus. Of course, when the review came out the minister backflipped and said it was only five million people. The Malinauskas Labor government has been pulling numbers from thin air since day one of the Sam Smith concert controversy.

On Monday 29 May 2023, the SA Tourism Commission chief executive defended the use of advertising value equivalent as a metric in an interview with ABC radio in the morning and at a parliamentary committee meeting; however, a few hours later, after the opposition presented FOI analysis of the negative coverage of \$24.5 million to the media, we forced tourism minister, Zoe Bettison, to concede she was wrong about the calculation. She then announced that the AVE measure would no longer be used.

South Australians should be very disappointed that this Labor government continues to get their priorities wrong. In fact, by their own calculation, the Sam Smith concert was a \$24.5 million disaster for the Malinauskas Labor government and for South Australia. This should serve as a wake-up call for Peter Malinauskas and Zoe Bettison.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:30): Today, I would like to congratulate a few young South Australians who have been awarded with some of the most prestigious opportunities that life can offer. South Australia has a long history as a place of innovation and achievement. South Australians have always relied on our intelligence, finding clever solutions for the challenges of the day. This has shaped the culture of innovation that distinguishes our state.

Members across all sides of politics support South Australians who distinguish themselves in academia and research. I want to acknowledge and commend Ms Nozhat Hassan and Mr Tyson Klingner, who are here today, for being awarded Fulbright scholarships, and Ms Emily Ahern for securing an internship at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. These students have been awarded once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, being recognised for their achievements during their academic careers thus far and their outstanding future potential.

The Fulbright program is the flagship foreign exchange scholarship program of the United States, aimed at strengthening international collaboration, cultural understanding and the exchange of ideas amongst nations. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory leads the world in robotic space exploration and science, sending spacecraft across the solar system.

These recently awarded scholarships are life-changing career-making opportunities. When these young people return to South Australia, as I hope they will, they will bring with them new knowledge, new experiences and new connections that can benefit not only their own work but our broader academic and innovation ecosystems.

I will offer a little bit of detail about each of the recipients. Firstly, Ms Nozhat Hassan is an evolutionary biologist at the University of Adelaide, where she is currently pursuing her PhD. Ms Hassan's research focuses on the evolution and distribution of mobile genetic elements (transposons) across avian genomes, with a particular focus on the underlying principle of adapting transposons into new-generation gene editing tools. As a Fulbright Future Scholar, she will be spending some time at UC Berkeley, where she will be combining bioinformatics with biochemical techniques to investigate the evolutionary history and impacts of transposons in both the genome and the cell.

Another Fulbright scholar, Mr Tyson Klingner, examines the abstract patterns that occur in the natural world. He holds a Bachelor of Mathematical Sciences (Advanced) in Pure Mathematics and a Master of Philosophy in Pure Mathematics from the University of Adelaide. He is researching Higgs bundles, which are rich geometric objects relevant to different areas of mathematics and physics. As a Fulbright Future Scholar, Mr Klingner will pursue a PhD in the US.

In regard to Ms Emily Ahern's NASA internship, Emily's PhD focuses on developing a compact optical clock for small satellites. For her internship, she will be paired with a mentor from the Jet Propulsion Lab, providing her with one-on-one access to an expert in her area of study and kickstarting her aerospace career. Emily will be working under the mentorship of experts with a wealth of experience in atomic clocks and space-qualified technology.

The research she will undertake at JPL will inform Emily's further research at the University of Adelaide. Emily is positioned to become a rising star of South Australia's space sector, which our government and previous state governments have proudly supported as a critical sector in our future economy. Once again, I convey my congratulations to these impressive young South Australians, and I wish them all the best for their bright futures.

Time expired.

GAMBLING HARM MINIMISATION

The Hon. C. BONAROS (15:35): The Auditor-General report on gambling harm minimisation was tabled in parliament yesterday, following a performance audit on the government's management of gambling harm minimisation, including its effectiveness on help services and the Gamblers Rehabilitation Fund (GRF). I will speak to the fund in a moment but will first draw attention to some of the harrowing statistics.

South Australians have lost \$12 billion to gambling in the last decade. Last financial year, South Australians lost a record \$1.52 billion. That is \$1,052 for every adult. Close to 60 per cent of losses are linked to gaming machines in our hotels and clubs. Any hint of a reduction during the COVID-19 pandemic is well and truly done. Losses are substantially higher than in the pre-pandemic era and are on a dangerous upward trajectory.

Gambling activity generated \$531 million in revenue for the state government in the 2021-22 financial year, the very reason successive governments do nothing to stop the insidious cancer of gambling. That is 10 per cent of state taxation revenue. That figure is projected to increase to \$582 million this financial year and a whopping \$590 million by 2025-26.

So where did all the money go? According to the Auditor-General, whereas \$381 million went to the Consolidated Account and \$105 million went to the hospitals fund, a mere 1 per cent of revenue, or \$5.38 million, was directed into the GRF. Industry kicked in another \$2.42 million to the fund, with the remaining \$853,000 coming from other sources. Casino giant SkyCity contributed a mere \$300,000. Essentially, \$8.651 million came into the fund but only \$7.726 million went out. A miniscule \$6.05 million funded gambling help services.

An estimated 10,000 South Australians participate in high-risk gambling. For every high-risk gambler, at least six other people are estimated to be impacted. That is about \$86 per person impacted by gambling at its highest. What an absolutely pathetic gesture. The Auditor-General report identified so many issues I could not possibly get through the list in five minutes, but here is a disturbing snapshot:

- Gaming machine and wagering inspections do not effectively target higher risk licensees;
- Inspections have not been completed as planned;
- No formal training program for gambling compliance inspectors;
- The timing of some inspections is predictable and not scheduled to encourage year-round compliance;
- Data indicates almost 30% of gaming managers and employees have not completed mandated training requirements;
- No testing performed to ensure mandated harm minimisation attributes for gaming machines are operating as intended;

- Gaming venue system for detecting indicators of gambling harm not tested to confirm it is operating effectively;
- No evaluations performed to assess whether current regulatory approach is effectively minimising gambling harm;
- Recommendations from gambling industry inquiries and investigations not systematically assessed and monitored.

To borrow a line from my colleague, it is absolutely a turd sandwich. SA-Best will keep a close watch on the government's response to this damning and scathing report. We know what to do at a minimum, and indeed the Greens know what to do at a minimum: cut the number of poker machine licences; get rid of those awful, woeful note acceptors and introduce cashless gaming cards; limit the operation hours of venues; limit maximum bets; and increase the funding of support services for problem gamblers and their families.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

The Hon. J.E. HANSON (15:40): Lately, the east coast has been looking over its shoulder at South Australia and it is not just because we are hosting their flagship origin event at Adelaide Oval, it is really because, well, frankly, we are kicking the goals in the tourism and major event space. Maybe we are scoring the tries after tonight. Who knows?

We know we have to do things a little differently in South Australia and it seems like we have figured out how to do that. We are really starting to look pretty good. It is not just the vibe. The numbers do a good job of telling the story of how well we are doing: over \$8 billion was put into our visitor economy and a record 20,000 businesses in the tourism and business tourism sector are benefiting from it.

We brought back the Adelaide 500, and I ask you, by the way, who is not glad that we did that? It was such a successful event, it delivered a record \$51.85 million benefit to the South Australian economy, a resounding endorsement of the Peter Malinauskas decision to bring the race back. We promised it, we delivered it, and we smashed it. Mad March went spectacularly this year. Over three days of the March long weekend alone, an estimated \$128 million was spent in the state's visitor economy.

We saw an unprecedented number of ticket sales across the Mad March events. Fringe ticket sales broke a national record, which is fantastic. It bears out that the government was right to have increased the funding to the Fringe and we are proud to have supported the festival as we did. There was WOMAD, Ed Sheeran. It is fantastic, it is massive, it is, to quote a South Australian icon, pretty special.

Then we had the AFL Gather Round—how fantastic—which was simply a smashing success. If you build it, they will come. We heard evidence in this parliament that the Adelaide Airport had its busiest four days since the start of the pandemic. Every single match sold out. More than 268,000 tickets were sold across the four days, and more than 60,000 people came from interstate to South Australia. No wonder they are looking over their shoulder.

The Friday and Saturday saw \$6.8 million in hotel bookings alone in our state. The Saturday was the highest ever revenue for a single night on record in our state for hotel accommodation in Adelaide. The Friday night takes out second place. The two AFL matches both played in Norwood injected more than \$2.2 million into Norwood just alone for entertainment. Who could complain about that in the seat of Dunstan?

LIV Golf, Tasting Australia, event after event, delivered exceptional benefits to our state, and it is not just about tourism. We are delivering on major election promises. We are doing the work, we are making life better for our community. We have taken decisive action on the South Road tunnels. Real work will be commencing—actually commencing—in the coming weeks. We have a Royal Commission into Early Childhood Education and Care with no less than a former Prime Minister at the helm, delivering that.

We are delivering on our promise, with hospital beds, ambulances and ambos to bring ramping down, as well as 278 extra nurses, 89 extra doctors, 141 extra ambos. We are delivering even more beds. The biggest land release—we are building new public housing. We have banned

mobile phones in classrooms. We are putting mental health support into classrooms and schools as well. We are building the technical colleges we promised. We are going to skill up our young people for the future workforce that we need in this state to support the new economy we are working and we are going to transition to.

Let's not forget we are leading the nation as well with the Voice to Parliament. We have done all this with some pretty significant headwinds. We have had 11 interest rate rises. There is an increased cost of living and associated pressures that come with that. Let's not forget, we had to respond to the floods in the Riverland too. We have done all this and we are starting to answer the question of: what is it we do in this state—a question that the state, no doubt, had been wondering about for the four years prior.

That is just in the first 14 months we have been in government. What is next? I am looking to the rollout of the AUKUS preparations, with billions of dollars in defence contracts coming to our state. The rollout in the Upper Spencer Gulf of hydrogen will attract the sort of jobs we need up there to make sure we develop that into a real other goal kicker for our state. I am looking forward to welcoming back the festivals which we already attracted to our state. Bring them back, bring them again, bring them from interstate, get them looking over their shoulder. Look at South Australia, we are kicking the goals, Mr Acting President. Enjoy the NRL.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (The Hon. R.A. Simms): Thank you, Mr Hanson. The Hon. Ms Bourke.

KERNEWEK LOWENDER

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (15:45): Recently, I had the pleasure of joining many dignitaries at the Kernewek Lowender in Moonta in the Copper Triangle on Yorke Peninsula, including the Governor and her partner, Rod Bunten; the federal member for the area, Rowan Ramsey; the Hon. Nicola Centofanti from the chamber here today; the local mayor; and, obviously, the President of the Kernewek Lowender, Lynn Spurling.

There are many reasons why there were so many dignitaries at this event. It is a community who really are the VIPs. They have taken this community back in time to remember and reflect on why this proud history is so important to celebrate. It is a community we often refer to as a very rich and colourful tapestry, a tapestry held together by many threads that cross and recross one another, bringing the lives and stories of past and present together to create a community.

On this particular day, it was a very wet community, but I know the organisers were very keen for the show go on. The most recent Kernewek Lowender, as it has been since 1973, was literally held together by thousands of threads, even if those threads were very wet on the day, from the hand sewn threads that have created traditional clothing to the Maypole ribbons and the binding threads that hold the tapestry together—people. People like Ashley, Barbara and their family.

Ashley and Barbara have been part of the Kernewek Lowender network since Premier Don Dunstan committed \$1,000 to help start the Kernewek Lowender way back in 1972. Like many in the community, they know it is not the bricks and mortar of a building that make a community. They know a community is only as good as its people. Like many, they made it their commitment to volunteer and support the very first Kernewek Lowender in 1973 and they have volunteered at every single Kernewek Lowender since.

From driving restored trucks and cars to dressing the graves, Barbara and Ashley have watched the festival grow from strength to strength, but there was one Kernewek Lowender that stands out. Some 40 years ago, Barbara decided it was time to sew a Kernewek Lowender outfit for her daughter with all the frills, and of course the finishing touch was included, a white apron. The threads she wove together achieved something that surprised both her 12-year-old daughter Sandra and probably most onlookers.

Sandra, at the age of 12, was crowned May Queen, making her the youngest ever May Queen to be crowned. To become the ambassador of the Kernewek Lowender at age 12 is a big commitment and on reflection Sandra mentioned that it was a little strange to be attending meetings late at night as a 12 year old. But the meetings must not have deterred Sandra too much, she went

on to become the treasurer of the Kernewek Lowender and would bring her four-month-old Chloe along to these meetings.

The most recent Kernewek Lowender was a particularly special and proud day for this family who, like many in the Copper Coast, have made it their way of life to help where they can, to look after the stories and traditions of the Kernewek Lowender so they can continue for generations to come. On this particular day at the Kernewek Lowender, Chloe, who at just four months had been going to meetings most of her life, followed in her mum's footsteps in becoming the May Queen.

There is no questioning how proud Ashley, Barbara and Sandra are of their granddaughter and daughter. They know Chloe's passion for working with children through swimming lessons and her studies to be a teacher will encourage younger generations to aspire to become the next May Queen. There is one thing they can all agree on: being May Queen at age 22 is probably a much better idea than being May Queen at age 12.

Today, the decades of volunteering and the decades of stories of Ashley, Barbara, Sandra, Chloe and the many who join them in giving their time have helped weave a rich tapestry, but it is far from finished. There are many threads that must still be woven by future generations. I congratulate the many local schools who ensure this tapestry continues to grow, ensuring the stories live on. We were there, and saw that school uniforms have been replaced with traditional clothing, and their classroom became the outdoors, even though it was a very wet classroom.

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (15:50): I want to start my contribution today by acknowledging to the chamber the tragic but ultimately remarkable story of Simone O'Brien's domestic violence journey. Last week, I was fortunate enough to meet and hear from Simone at the 'Say NO to domestic and family violence' dinner sponsored by the combined Rotary clubs of Mount Gambier.

Simone's journey began 11 years ago when she was subjected to a horrifying intimate partner domestic violence attack by a perpetrator who could not take no for an answer. By Simone's own account, she was oblivious to domestic violence and the associated red flags until she learned the hard way.

Her story is not for the squeamish. After experiencing emotional and psychological abuse from her perpetrator, including lies, theft and insults, Simone was then horrifically beaten with a baseball bat that left her clinging to life. Her head was literally caved in by her abuser—in front of her children—within 10 minutes of her phone call to break up from her partner of nine months whom she had met online dating.

Compounding the significant physical and emotional pain she experienced at the hands of this monster was what she described as the unimaginable ripple effects that this had on her children and family. Simone's injuries were extensive. Her left arm was broken in two places, her top jaw was smashed, her nose and right cheekbone were broken, both eye sockets were damaged and her skull was completely shattered. She was left blind in one eye, needed multiple surgeries to reconstruct her face and required screws and titanium plates to piece her skull back together.

Simone's story and her resilience and strength is now shining a light on domestic violence, but we know that, tragically, the story is not an isolated one. She is joined by the 16 per cent of Australian women who the Australian Bureau of Statistics says have experienced partner violence in their lifetime.

This trend does not appear to be heading in the right direction. The data shows a steady increase in domestic violence orders over the past few years, with the ABS finding a 13 per cent increase in family and domestic violence and sexual assaults. The figures appallingly show that 5,700 cases of DV were reported in 2021, which is a growth of 2,000 cases in just three years.

We also know that domestic violence is not isolated to female victims, with the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Crime Tool (2023), finding that one in three victims of domestic assault from January 2021 to December 2022 were male and that one in eight men will experience violence from an intimate partner or family member in their lifetime.

Domestic violence is a black mark on our society and we should do all we can to stamp it out. Through the advocacy and work of Simone O'Brien and campaigns such as Rotary's Say NO to Domestic Violence and the One in Three Campaign for male victims of family violence, I am hopeful that this trend will see a change in trajectories.

While it is encouraging to see more women feeling comfortable about opening up about their negative experiences in this space, there is seemingly a tendency for men to be less outspoken about their own. The One in Three Campaign notes that men are two to three times more likely than women to have never told anyone about their experience with current or previous partner domestic violence incidents. They are also 50 per cent more likely than women to have never sought advice or support.

There appears to be a stigma felt more acutely by men when it comes to speaking out about their own experiences as a victim of domestic violence. With the support of anti-domestic violence campaigns such as One in Three, Rotary's Say NO to Domestic Violence and Simone's powerful story, hopefully the stigma that afflicts men and women alike can be overcome.

To end on a slightly more positive note than how I began, I would like to quote Simone's mantra that she often tells herself to keep her on track. They are words we can all live by, and I want to thank and congratulate her as she continues on her national and international campaign to rid us of the scourge of domestic violence: 'Never give up. Keep smiling. And stay positive.'

Motions

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:55): I move:

That this council censures the Attorney-General, the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and the government for their failure to provide answers to questions on notice to this council within the required time limit, pursuant to the sessional order passed by this council on 1 June 2022.

The fact that I am having to stand up in this chamber and move this censure motion is a sad indictment on the arrogance of this Labor government. The Liberal government, upon election in May 2018, committed to being transparent and accountable to the South Australian people. Changes were implemented to the sessional orders. Questions with notice would receive answers within 30 days. We could do it when we were in government; I am not sure why Labor cannot.

We, the Liberal Party, did this because it is basic best practice. It shows accountability and it shows transparency. The people of South Australia deserve honesty and we stuck to our word. We have already seen that this Labor government does not understand the meaning of sticking to their word. Before the election they said they would fix the ramping crisis, but they have not.

Before the election they—that is, the Deputy Premier and member for Port Adelaide, Susan Close—said Labor had absolutely no intention of knocking over any heritage places, but it is looking like they absolutely will. We have already seen in this chamber, despite the sessional order motion moved by the opposition and supported by the crossbench being passed in mid last year, that this government is still not prepared to answer the South Australian community's questions and, what is more, is using every excuse under the sun to not answer these questions.

They remind me of the primary school aged kid—the one everyone had in their class—whose excuse always was, 'The dog ate my homework.' Apparently when questioned by the media last night about this censure motion and where the answers were, a state government spokesman said:

The answer to the questions were prepared some time ago but had not yet been tabled due to an 'administrative error'.

It appears the dog ate the Premier's and the parliamentary secretary's homework. I wonder why it took the media to find out where these questions, asked back on 8 February, were. I asked the Leader of the Government some time ago, and time and time again, where they were, but somehow they were lost, apparently never to be found again, except that, surprise, surprise, they have appeared on my desk today. It reminds me a little bit of that classic line from *Muriel's Wedding*, 'Deidre Chambers, what a coincidence!'

Earlier this week, the parliamentary secretary was on the Adelaide radio, applauding her efforts as the first Minister for Autism in the country, stating that this government views outcomes for the autism community so seriously that the portfolio deserves to sit with Premier and Cabinet, across multiple ministries with its own dedicated parliamentary secretary. Yet, up until about an hour ago there were eight outstanding questions about autism without answers from February this year—each 81 days overdue—and the parliamentary secretary and the Premier provide the lame excuse of 'administrative error'. The dog ate their homework.

In all seriousness, these are the questions that have been asked on behalf of constituents who are closely linked to autism, and it is frustrating and upsetting to have to continue to explain to them that Labor and the parliamentary secretary cannot be bothered answering these important questions.

The Leader of the Government in this house has stated on numerous occasions in response to questions from the opposition about overdue answers to questions on notice that, and I quote: 'My understanding is that there have been hundreds of questions on notice', and that hardworking members of the public sector had spent 'hours and hours collating, finding information to inform', suggesting that we, the opposition, were submitting too many questions on notice for the government to keep up.

It is my understanding that in last 12 months we, the opposition, have submitted 280 questions on notice. It is also my understanding that Labor, when they were in their first year of opposition, submitted 700 questions on notice—700, more than double the number of questions that the Leader of Government suggests are too many to handle. The Labor government promised that they would hold their government to a higher standard, but those promises, like most promises we hear from the Labor Party, were empty.

The Labor government continues to show arrogance and are unwilling to cooperate with our chambers' sessional orders, and so I feel I need to take the time to explain to the government why this is such an important matter. Number one is accountability. Transparency ensures that any government is held accountable for their actions and decisions. By providing answers and providing access to information, the government allows its colleagues in opposition and the crossbench to scrutinise policies, programs and expenditures. They should want this. It lays open a system of checks and balances, improves ethical behaviour and correct use of power. Without that transparency, they have no proof of this.

Number two is democratic principles. Transparency is fundamental to all democratic governance systems. Openness, inclusivity, fostering trust, promoting participation, ensuring processes are representative and fair are all key elements of a safe and secure democracy. Respecting the role of opposition and crossbench as part of state governance contributes to the stability and long-term viability of a democracy: the South Australian public's right to know, allowing us on the other side of this chamber to check that the decisions made by the Malinauskas government are not favouring vested interests. Again, I argue, the government should want this transparency. They should want the public to trust them, to know promises are being kept. Alas, another fail by this Labor government.

Number three is better outcomes for South Australians. Effective decision-making, bipartisan support for strong policy, refinement of proposals and planning based on cohesive well-informed feedback can only happen if questions are answered.

I moved the motion to change the sessional orders mid last year with the support of the crossbench, and I thank the crossbench for their dedication to transparency and accountability in this chamber. I did so, so that questions on notice would be answered within a reasonable time frame of 30 days. The government has largely chosen to ignore these sessional orders, which is a contempt of this chamber and an absolute disgrace.

As I said during the sessional orders motion, it is a sad state of affairs when the opposition and the crossbench have to force the government to be open, accountable and transparent to the people of South Australia and, after all that, the government take an outstandingly arrogant view to ignore these sessional orders and ignore the questions put to them by the South Australian public.

This government clearly does not believe in being honest with the South Australian community, they clearly do not believe in being transparent with the South Australian community, and they clearly do not believe in being accountable to the people who showed them faith in electing them in March 2022. Shame on them.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:04): I move:

That this council—

1. Notes with concern that in May 2023 a bill was introduced into the House of Assembly and passed the third reading stage within 22 minutes without:
 - (a) public scrutiny of the bill;
 - (b) consultation with relevant stakeholders; and
 - (c) consideration for the impacts on human rights.
2. Recognises that a human rights charter can:
 - (a) articulate a set of common values and principles that define and preserve our modern democracy;
 - (b) address inequality and discrimination and lack of access to fundamental services;
 - (c) clearly define the expectations we have of each other and our state institutions; and
 - (d) improve the quality and effectiveness of government decision-making.
3. Acknowledges human rights legislation has been adopted in Queensland, Victoria and the ACT.
4. Urges the government to begin consultation on how human rights legislation could be implemented in South Australia.

The first part of this motion references the amendment bill that passed in 2023. Of course, the bill I am referring to is the Summary Offences (Obstruction of Public Places) Amendment Bill. I will not talk about the substance of the bill in detail—I spoke about it at length just last night—but members will know that that bill passed the House of Assembly with just 22 minutes of debate. It passed this chamber with considerably more attention last night, or in the early hours of this morning, after 14 hours of discussion.

There was a belligerent insistence by the two major parties that it needed to be rushed through, so we sat into the early hours of the morning in order to deal with the bill, one that seriously impacts on the civil liberties of South Australians, their capacity to organise, their capacity to protest, their capacity to gather in the public space. It is an outrageous attack on the civil liberties of South Australians, and it has been aided and abetted by the two major political parties in this place ganging up to curtail the right to peaceful protest in our democracy.

What does this mean? It means that we do not have sufficient safeguards in our state for human rights. There is a big problem with this legislation. We have talked about the failure of leadership from the government in terms of how they have handled this, the appalling internal politics of the Labor Party, the way in which they have flouted the views of their own members and the union movement, but one of the things they have not done is they did not turn their attention to the human rights implications of this law.

What a human rights charter would do is provide a framework to prevent problems like this from happening again in the future. South Australia is renowned for its progressive ideals and its commitment to social justice. It is not news to any of us that South Australia was the first state in Australia and the second in the world to allow women to vote. We were the first part of the British Empire to legalise trade unions. We were the first state to make race discrimination illegal. These were all important reforms that enshrined human rights into legislation.

Human rights are a cornerstone of a just and fair society. They represent the fundamental values that underpin the dignity and the worth of every individual. They recognise our rights to life, liberty, security and freedom from discrimination. Human rights protect us all regardless of our age,

gender, cultural background, religion, sexual orientation or social status. They are a compass that guides us towards an equal, just, and inclusive society.

While society has made significant progress in promoting human rights, we have no framework or instrument that can collectively guide us. Unlike Victoria, Queensland and the ACT, South Australia is yet to adopt a human rights framework. It is time for us to join them and make a clear commitment to protect the rights and freedoms of all South Australians.

This motion calls on the government to begin consultation on human rights legislation and how it could be implemented in our state. Consultation is the crucial first step towards developing a robust and effective human rights framework tailored to our unique circumstances. Through a comprehensive consultation process we can ensure that the voices of individuals, communities, civil society organisations and experts are heard. We must create an opportunity for dialogue, for understanding and consensus, and it is through that engagement that we can come up with a robust framework that reflects the human rights of South Australians and provides guidance to our democratic institutions.

This consultation would allow us to identify the specific rights and freedoms that require protection, and would shed light on the challenges faced by marginalised groups. By listening to the experience of vulnerable communities, we can address the systemic injustices that endure and develop provisions within human rights legislation that provide adequate safeguards. Undertaking consultation will enable us to learn from the experiences of other jurisdictions that have implemented human rights acts. We can draw upon their successes and learn from their challenges. By taking an evidence-based approach, we can refine our legislation to ensure its effectiveness and relevance to South Australian circumstances.

A human rights framework for South Australia will not only safeguard the rights of all individuals but will strengthen our democracy. It will provide a clear direction for government action, ensuring that policies and legislation align with our human rights obligations. Human rights legislation will act as a powerful tool for accountability, enabling individuals to challenge discriminatory practices and violations, and it will empower our courts to interpret laws in line with human rights principles.

By establishing a human rights framework, we can foster a culture of human rights throughout society. Such a framework would provide awareness and education, encouraging all South Australians to understand their rights and responsibilities. By cultivating a society that respects and upholds human rights, we can build stronger, more inclusive, communities and nurture a sense of belonging for everyone.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen lawmaking that was undertaken without sufficient public scrutiny, consultation with relevant stakeholders, or consideration for the impacts of human rights. Regardless of what one may think of the anti-protest laws that passed through this parliament last night, whatever people may think of the draconian approach being taken by the Labor and Liberal parties, that process was undertaken with a very poor approach to democracy and democratic practice. There was no consideration for due process. As has been remarked by many people, you could do a load of washing in 20 minutes—you do not normally pass a bill through the parliament.

There was no consideration given to the human rights implications of that legislation whatsoever—no consideration at all. Indeed, when those of us on the crossbench tried to bring that element to the consideration of the chamber last night, there was lots of yawning and rolling of eyes. This should actually be baked into our parliamentary processes. A human rights framework would have required the government to turn their minds to the wider implications of the bill before they rushed it through the parliament. It would have required them to think about the unintended consequences and how that would impact on the right to protest.

It was encouraging to note in this chamber yesterday, when I questioned the Attorney-General, the Hon. Kyam Maher, about the government's commitment to human rights, that he said in the chamber that he is open to the idea. He stated, and I quote from his response from *Hansard*:

Protecting human rights is an important thing the government should be concerned about.

Sorry, Mr President, something has just got my eyes going—a bit of hayfever or something or probably tiredness, I suspect.

The PRESIDENT: What would have brought that on, the Hon. Mr Simms?

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Since 1975, we have had federal racial discrimination laws. We have an equal opportunity act that applies in South Australia. In relation to legislation for human rights, we are open to receiving representations, but we do not have a policy to advance legislation on this matter at this time.

While it is promising to hear the government is open to receiving representations, we need more of a commitment to rigorous investigation of a human rights framework. This motion calls on the government to do that—to undertake the consultation to progress the idea. The experience of other jurisdictions is that implementation of a human rights act has not resulted in an avalanche of litigation, rather it has led to better policy development and improved decision-making. By embedding human rights considerations into the legislative process, we can strike a balance between protecting individual rights and the legitimate exercise of government authority.

It is not just the Greens that are pushing this. There are a range of civic and political organisations that made a call last year. I do not have the full list in front of me, but there was a full list of groups that have made this call and have come out urging the government to act on this. The time has come for South Australia to embark on a journey towards a human rights framework. Through consultation, we can create legislation that reflects our values, protects the vulnerable and upholds the rights and freedoms of all South Australians.

A human rights framework would prevent the kind of policymaking on the run, the legislating on the fly, that we have seen in this place in recent weeks, when you have thought bubbles from talkback radio being rushed through the parliament without appropriate consideration for the human rights implications. It has blown up in the face of the government in a very big way. It is a ticking time bomb for the Labor Party. It is going to continue to cause them political challenges in the days ahead because of their failure to consider the implications, what this reform means for human rights. Let us never go down this path again.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

PERIOD POVERTY

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (16:15): I move:

That this council—

1. Notes the findings of Share the Dignity's Period Pride Report: Bloody Big Survey Findings in which 17 per cent of participants in South Australia in 2021 faced period poverty;
2. Acknowledges that access to period products and menstrual education is essential in ensuring the full and equal participation of women, girls, and others who menstruate, in school life and in society;
3. Recognises that financial pressure impacts the ability to hygienically, comfortably and confidently manage periods especially for those already at greater risk of being unable to afford basic essentials like tampons and pads; and
4. Notes the commitment of the state government to pursue strategies to address the issue of period poverty and encourages the state government to continue to work with community organisations involved in the area.

Last Sunday, the world celebrated Menstrual Hygiene Day. This annual awareness day aims to break menstrual taboos and raise awareness of the importance of menstrual hygiene management. I have spoken about this topic a number of times in this chamber, many times alongside my parliamentary colleague the Hon. Connie Bonaros. This is in the hope of normalising the discussion of menstruation in public life, which would ordinarily be clouded by shame and stigma.

This in turn impacts upon and prevents progress towards eradicating period poverty. Lack of access to menstrual products and adequate menstrual health education is a pressing concern that demands our attention and our action, especially when considering the impact this has on the wellbeing, participation and school attendance of children and young people.

We already know from the initial report by the Commissioner for Children and Young People in 2019, titled *Leave No One Behind*, that period poverty is a problem in South Australia. Period poverty significantly impacts everyday tasks and events for children and young people, with the report finding that 26 per cent of students surveyed reported missing out on attending school due to not having period products and 51 per cent of students surveyed expressed that they did not have access to products or they did not know how to access period products at school.

A further report by the Commissioner for Children and Young People in 2021, titled *Menstruation Matters*, explained this research and revealed that, of those 3,267 responses, one in four children and young people reported experiencing problems getting period products when they needed them. This was for reasons such as cost, lack of knowledge, shame associated with buying products or a reliance on others for support. These barriers were found to affect students' ability to participate in schoolwork, sport and other physical activity. Furthermore, a lack of adequate bathroom and disposal facilities, limited access to pain relief and a lack of information added to the erosion of menstrual wellbeing.

More recently, a preliminary study was done by Queensland University of Technology and Share the Dignity, a women's charity in Australia that advocates for menstrual health. These findings reiterated the commissioner's report in highlighting the impact of period poverty on young people. Key results from this preliminary study found that in 2023, cost was the biggest barrier for high school students to use the right products for their period, 12.6 per cent of high school students had difficulty buying period products every month and 37 per cent of high school students sometimes had to make do with tissue, cloth or paper instead of using sanitary products because of their cost. Hygiene was also impacted, with 21 per cent of high school students often wearing a tampon or pad for more than the recommended four hours.

The issue of period poverty does not just end once a girl finishes school. For many girls and women, periods are a constant part of life and it is something we have to live with every month for decades. Share the Dignity supplies sanitary products for those in need. In 2021, the charity released a report entitled *Period Pride: Bloody Big Survey Findings*, which sought to understand the ways that people manage their periods. This was the largest survey of its kind, with more than 125,000 participants. Of those participants from South Australia, 17 per cent have been unable to afford period products at some point in their life.

The survey also revealed some distressing ways people were dealing with period poverty, with 42 per cent of respondents, or 52,185 people, finding it difficult to buy period products because of the cost. Forty per cent of respondents had chosen a less suitable product due to cost, 49 per cent had worn a tampon or a pad for more than four hours because they had run out, and 22 per cent had to improvise on period products altogether, using socks, cloth or toilet paper as makeshift pads due to cost.

These alternatives are not merely an inconvenience for those facing period poverty, they pose a danger to health, wellbeing and dignity. Such items are unreliable, difficult to dispose of and uncomfortable. Inadequate substitutions can lead to infections like toxic shock syndrome, reproductive health issues and other physical complications, as well as cause mental distress and distraction. Many girls and women may instead disengage from their day-to-day lives and remove themselves from everyday activities to avoid feelings of discomfort, frustration and vulnerability.

From all these surveys, it is clear that period poverty and menstrual health is crucial when considering the already well-established gender disparities in the participation of women in employment, education, sports and other social activities. With young girls missing out on school, women taking days off from study and work, social isolation due to shame and stigma, and difficulty accessing menstruation pain management medication, it is no surprise that gender disparities in all areas still exists where period poverty remains.

Providing access to affordable and sustainable menstrual products can help break the chains of period poverty, enabling girls to attend school regularly and women to participate fully in the workforce. Period poverty also disproportionately impacts those already at greater risk of not being able to afford basic essentials like pads and tampons. Indigenous women, low income women, disabled women and LGBTQ+ women may face higher levels of period poverty. With the current

cost-of-living crisis, the number of people who are unable to comfortably afford the rising cost of menstrual products grows by the day.

Plan International Australia found that 57 per cent of people reported it was more difficult to pay for pads, tampons and reusable sanitary products in 2022 than in previous years. Those in remote and rural areas face additional barriers, where products are reported to cost vastly more than in the cities. Accessing menstrual pain management comes with additional systemic barriers. As the chief executive of Plan International Australia states, and I quote:

It's a fixed cost for women and girls that you can't avoid, so you're very beholden to the market in that way.

It is hard to believe that in Australia in 2023 we continue to have women and girls facing period poverty and indignities for a process that is as natural as any other biological process. Menstrual products should be supplied for free in public spaces, just as toilet paper and hand soap are. When over half the population require them, they are as critical as toilet paper and should be treated in the same way.

A period is not a choice. It is not something that people who menstruate can simply opt out of whenever they want. It is shameful to have even one case where a person must choose between buying food and buying the menstrual products they need to hygienically manage their periods. To address period poverty, we must adopt a multifaceted approach. Firstly, we must ensure that menstrual products are available free of charge in public spaces, such as schools, universities, community centres and shelters. By removing the financial barrier, we can ensure the dignity and wellbeing of those affected by period poverty.

Secondly, we need to implement comprehensive menstrual health education programs in schools and foster a culture of openness and understanding. Education plays a crucial role in dispelling myths and taboos surrounding menstruation. It empowers individuals to make informed choices about their reproductive health. We must normalise conversations about periods, destigmatise menstruation and promote inclusivity in all aspects of society.

Thirdly, we should work with and support non-profit organisations and community groups. Share the Dignity has done incredible work in this regard, but the onus must not be on volunteers to deliver these products. The South Australian government has taken some great steps towards eliminating period poverty. Their initiative providing free pads and tampons to children and young people in every public school is vital in ensuring that children are not missing school because they cannot access sanitary items.

I am also glad to hear that category of disadvantage 1 to 3 schools, the most disadvantaged, will be receiving additional funding on top of existing funding and that schools are providing positive feedback about this initiative. While this is a step in the right direction, my dream is that all girls and women in our state have access to free menstrual products in order to manage their menstrual cycles with dignity.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. H.M. Girolamo.

KINGS RESERVE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:27): I move:

That this council—

1. Acknowledges the importance of Kings Reserve to the local community, and that its existing mature trees help cool one of Adelaide's hottest councils on the heat map, and one of the lowest percentages of tree canopy;
2. Notes that under the current draft master plan, it is estimated that between 70 and 140 mature native trees will be cut down to accommodate a second training oval for the Adelaide Football Club development; and
3. Supports local community calls for quality outcomes for all stakeholders, and urgent protection for the mature trees currently at risk of removal.

Kings Reserve, described as one of the city's premier mixed-use open spaces, is a much-loved tree canopied park on the eastern edge of Torrensville. For those who do not know, that is in downtown westside 5031. Framed by 267 native mature trees, including blue gums, lemon scented gums,

spotted gums and river red gums, and host to residents including the Nankeen kestrel and grey-headed flying fox, it is a keystone green space in the greater Adelaide metropolitan network of green corridors. It is also the only significant public green space in the area bounded by South, Holbrooks and Henley Beach roads and the River Torrens.

The formal and informal recreational opportunities presented by Kings Reserve are significantly enhanced by its existing mature tree canopy and the shade and the cooling it supplies. The value of Kings Reserve within the community is particularly amplified by the scarcity of green space in the City of West Torrens against a background of increasing housing density. For perspective, there are currently 173 hectares of public open space in West Torrens. That equates to 5.7 per cent of the council area, excluding Adelaide Airport, and it falls well below the 12.5 per cent open space contribution referenced by the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act.

Community expectation for development of this land into a sustainable, high-value, high-quality public reserve was established when work commenced on the 2018 Kings Reserve master plan in mid 2019. This collaborative plan was innovative in its design and utilised community and expert engagement to conceptualise a coexisting nature and nurture play space to create a synergy of the natural environment and the intergenerational community that centres around it.

In 2023, after a three-year delay in the construction of the Kings Reserve master plan, it is now clear that both the master plan and the existing tree canopy are under threat. The City of West Torrens recently and rapidly entered into a pre-lease agreement with the Adelaide Football Club, agreeing to proceed to stage 2 of the development process, enabling the Adelaide Football Club to develop a master plan for Kings Reserve and the adjacent Thebarton Oval, which the Adelaide Football Club plan to develop as their new headquarters.

The AFC have insisted on the inclusion of Kings Reserve in the lease to establish a second full-size AFL standard training oval with associated infrastructure. The proposal will result in the destruction of approximately 150 mature trees and comes at a loss of over five hectares of mixed-use community parkland in a locality where tree canopy and green space are scarce. It is estimated that more than 60 per cent of the tree canopy on Kings Reserve will be lost if this lease proposal in its current form goes ahead.

At their AGM in March, the Adelaide Football Club indicated they are seeking almost \$80 million funding from all three tiers of government: a local government contribution of up to \$9 million, with an additional nine hectares of rate-free reduced-rent community land valued at around \$65 million; \$21 million of federal funding; and a \$56 million dollar deficit that they indicated they will be looking to the state government to fund, which it is looking likely it will, out of various pots of taxpayer dollars.

This stadium is going to have enormous environmental and social impacts for the inner-west community and also flow-on effects for wider Adelaide. It is not fair, reasonable or sensible use of taxpayers' money. We have spiralling cost of living, increasing homelessness with no short-term answers on public housing or real investment in public housing, our health system is in crisis and, looking over to Tasmania, the stadium fiasco in that state has put a spotlight on government investment into what is essentially a multibillion-dollar corporate industry.

The nuance we have in this situation is that not only is this taxpayers' money but it is community land. It will be giving away of nine hectares of community asset with no direct benefit to that local community; questionable, unproven benefit to greater Adelaide; and huge cost. And it is against a backdrop of repeated government attacks on community green space and parkland.

By handing over Kings Reserve the community stands to lose a park. They do not gain an oval; they lose a park. The community stands to lose access to existing green space, as the Crows will control public access to both training ovals. They will only gain increased access to existing green space when the fencing around Thebarton Oval is removed, fencing already planned to be removed in the 2018 master plan. In that, they gained an upgraded Thebarton Oval and a park.

The community stands to lose up to 100 mature trees and an environmentally diverse green space, with the tree canopy replaced by flat, closely mown, highly maintained and unshaded grass. The community stands to lose money: most, if not all, of the community facilities listed in the Crows'

draft plan will be funded by a \$9 million contribution from the council, a similar cost to that incurred in the 2018 master plan yet with significantly less availability of community amenities.

The community stands to lose community groups that already, that currently, use the park, such as the MA Hawks Soccer Club, which has called that space home for decades. Finally, the community stands to lose potential: they lose community land, there is no increase in revenue, their rates are not lowered and there is no new revenue generated that could be invested into the community.

The AFC proposal and the deeply upsetting actions of the West Torrens council have brought together everyday citizens in that community from all walks of life to challenge what they see as grossly unjust. I note in the other place this week over 5,000 petitions signed were tabled by the local member in the other place, the member for West Torrens, and that is an indication of the strong feeling of the community on this issue.

They point to the fact that there has been no cost-benefit analysis considering this project against alternative uses for the land, there have been no traffic impact studies and no environmental impact studies. There has been no due diligence, just an apparent blinding by the lights of the shiny AFL dream. Instead of acting on behalf of all its people, the councillors chanced it to the goodwill of a commercial entity, which is investing its money, future and reputation into this facility and will be looking to maximise the benefit they can reap from that community land for the next 84 years.

There were over 5,500 hard copy signatures, and that petition tabled in the other place urges this state government not to provide public funding to the Adelaide Football Club to develop the Thebarton Oval Kings Reserve precinct unless—and this is a big thing—there is a commitment from the Adelaide Football Club to adopt an alternative design and preserve that almost 150 mature trees currently on the Kings Reserve.

The reason I move this motion to recognise the tabling of that petition and the reason the community has gotten together to get that petition up is because of course we are in the budget lead-up right now, and that government decision will impact on this local community into the future.

I say to this council: the Greens stand with the local community. We want to see all benefit from what goes forward here, and we certainly hope that, unlike the processes around the caretaker period of decision making, where there was some secrecy, where there was fast-tracked processes and the community was not heard, we hope that going forward the community's voice will be loudly heard, not only in this council but by this government. With that, I commend the motion.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

ADELAIDE PARKLANDS

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. N.J. Centofanti:

1. That a select committee of the Legislative Council be established to inquire into and report on the management and preservation of the Adelaide Parklands, with particular reference to:
 - (a) whether the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 is achieving the statutory principles of the act, having regard to section 4 of the act;
 - (b) whether ministerial responsibility for the Parklands is sufficiently clear during decision-making processes;
 - (c) consideration of delegated powers for the Adelaide Park Lands Authority;
 - (d) ways in which the area of green, publicly accessible open space within the Parklands can be expanded;
 - (e) initiatives which would enhance the biodiversity of the Parklands;
 - (f) consideration of recommendations about legislative reform;
 - (g) the appropriateness of the government's decision to relocate SAPOL from the Thebarton Police Barracks to Park 21 West: Golden Wattle Park/Mirnu Wirra;
 - (h) the benefits of state and/or World Heritage listing for the Parklands; and
 - (i) any other related matters.

2. That this council permits the select committee to authorise the disclosure or publication, as it sees fit, of any evidence or documents presented to the committee prior to such evidence being presented to the council.

(Continued from 17 May 2023.)

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (16:38): The Labor government has a long and proud history of returning land to the Adelaide Parklands. Wherever there is a decision made to locate important infrastructure, like the new Women's and Children's Hospital and the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre, we always aim to ensure there is a zero net loss of accessible Parklands, while considering ways to improve access and amenities to surrounding areas.

The Malinauskas Labor government has delivered on its election commitment to fully restore Parklands protection to Helen Mayo Park (Park 27) by abolishing zoning changes made by the former Liberal government to build a \$662 million basketball stadium on this site. This includes investing \$1.5 million to revitalise degraded areas of the Helen Mayo Park.

The Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (the act) establishes the legislative framework that promotes the special status attributes and character of the Adelaide Parklands. The act provides for the protection of the Parklands and their management as a world-class asset to be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations.

The act ensures that the City of Adelaide, also referred to in this as the council, and the state government are committed to protecting and enhancing the Adelaide Parklands for the benefit of all South Australians. The act also establishes the Kadaltilla, also known as the Adelaide Park Lands Authority. I will be referring to it as the Kadaltilla, as the council responsible for the Parklands.

Kadaltilla plays an important role in advising both the council and the state government on the protection, management, enhancement and promotion of the Adelaide Parklands. Kadaltilla's current Parklands management strategy includes objectives and outcomes that aim to enhance biodiversity and nominate the Parklands for world heritage designation.

On Kadaltilla's advice, the government supports the council's bid for world heritage status for Adelaide and its surrounds and have written to the federal government in support of the bid to acknowledge and promote Adelaide, the Parklands, our history and the global influence of the city's layout.

To date, Kadaltilla has not advised the state government that the act is deficient in achieving its statutory principles, nor recommended that legislative reform or delegated powers be considered. The government recognises the strong community sentiment regarding how highly valued this open space is to all South Australians and visitors and does not believe that a select committee is required to explore the vital role the Parklands plays in our city and across the state.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:41): I am really dismayed to hear that the government are not going to be supporting this select committee. I am really dismayed, but it is part of, unfortunately, what we are seeing at the moment: a habit from this Labor government when it comes to the Parklands, of being advocates when in opposition, but when they find themselves on the red leather benches suddenly things change. When they find themselves on the government benches things change.

One of the terms of reference in this inquiry is the benefits that would flow from state heritage listing. Let's not forget that back in 2022, prior to the state election, I put forward a bill to this place that would add the Adelaide Parklands to the State Heritage Register. It was supported by the then Liberal government and the Labor opposition and, indeed, every party in this place. I had considered that there was then a real opportunity after the election to get this legislation through but, sadly, when the Labor Party found themselves in government they reneged on that commitment, and that is deeply disappointing.

Since then, we have seen a range of raids on our Parklands, and I think it is a case of saying one thing in opposition and doing something very different in government. That is why the Greens are supportive of this inquiry, because it would provide an opportunity to address the full range of issues relating to the Parklands, in particular relating to heritage listing—one of the passions that the Greens have—but also the process around the selection of the police barracks for SAPOL and,

indeed, I have engaged with the opposition around suggesting some potential inclusions, and I welcome the fact that they have incorporated those.

One of those is an examination of the role of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority and its powers, and I think there is a real opportunity to give the Adelaide Park Lands Authority more teeth when it comes to managing our public space to ensure that the Parklands are protected. I should say both major parties have a bad track record when it comes to managing the Parklands, but I welcome this effort by the Liberal Party to potentially make amends, and to look into some of the issues affecting the Parklands and their management going forward. I would certainly welcome the opportunity to be a part of the committee should it be established.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:43): I would like to thank the Hon. Robert Simms for his contribution and support of the committee. I acknowledge the Hon. Emily Bourke's contribution, but I am disappointed again with the government's response. I think if the shoe was on the other foot, the government, when in opposition, would scream blue murder if the government did not support the establishment of a select committee, particularly one into the Adelaide Parklands.

As the Hon. Robert Simms noted, the government has developed a habit of voting one way and then flipping, doing a complete 180, when they are on the opposite side of this chamber. They have also developed a habit of voting against various select committees, noting that they voted against the honourable member's Select Committee on Public and Active Transport. Fortunately, the rest of the chamber saw sense, and the honourable member did an exceptional job chairing that committee.

Again, it is an incredible shame that the government has not provided their support for this motion to establish a select committee to consider the protection and preservation of Adelaide's unique Parklands. We know that the South Australian Heritage Council and the Adelaide City Council are supportive of the formal recognition of the Adelaide Parklands and CBD layout as a State Heritage Area, and the proposed select committee would give further consideration to this, along with World Heritage listing for the Parklands.

Given Labor's commitment prior to the 2022 state election to 'protect Adelaide's unique Parklands', the opposition and the community are justified in their surprise at Labor's change in position, noting the repeated announcements by this current Labor government to erode the green open space that is available to the community in the Parklands. With those comments, I commend the motion to the council.

The council divided on the motion:

Ayes9
 Noes.....10
 Majority1

AYES

Centofanti, N.J. (teller)
 Girolamo, H.M.
 Hood, D.G.E.

Franks, T.A.
 Henderson, L.A.
 Lee, J.S.

Game, S.L.
 Hood, B.R.
 Simms, R.A.

NOES

Bonaros, C.
 Hunter, I.K.
 Ngo, T.T.
 Scriven, C.M.

Bourke, E.S. (teller)
 Maher, K.J.
 Pangallo, F.

Hanson, J.E.
 Martin, R.B.
 Pnevmatikos, I.

PAIRS

Lensink, J.M.A.

Wortley, R.P.

Motion thus negatived.

SAYER, MS. C

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:51): I move:

That this council—

1. Acknowledges Catherine Sayer and her contribution as Chief Executive Officer of Food South Australia;
2. Celebrates the South Australian food and beverage sector as a key contributor to the South Australian economy;
3. Recognises Catherine's work in the South Australian food and beverage sector more broadly as well as in the non-profit community; and
4. Wishes Catherine all the best in her next role.

South Australia has garnered a well-deserved reputation for being a global leader in fine foods. Our produce is the epitome of high quality, with unquestioned food safety standards and simple ingredients that allow flavours and textures to shine. For the last 12 years, the woman taking those flavours to the world has been Food SA Chief Executive Officer, Catherine Sayer.

Since October 2010, Ms Sayer has built and led a team of experts spanning Adelaide, Japan and China. Through Food SA, they have delivered programs across areas of market development, capacity and capability building and advocacy for the food and beverage industry. Catherine is well recognised as the key representative and the voice of industry to government. Ms Sayer's strong stakeholder engagement skills have been crucial to positioning our state on the global market.

Ms Sayer has previously held key industry roles as a member of the Agribusiness Council of SA, a member of the Fisheries Council of SA and a prior Chair of the SA Lobster Advisory. Ms Sayer is currently a director of Seafood Industry Australia, the Chair of KIN Premium Australian Seafoods and Chair for the past 12 years of the Tropical Tuna Management Advisory Committee. She is a member and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Food South Australia is our state's peak body for the food and beverage industry. Membership is open to producers, processors and manufacturers, as well as industry associations and service providers. They exist to support, sustain and grow food and beverage businesses. Ms Sayer and her team have been successfully doing this for well over a decade, identifying and evaluating new markets and trends and connecting businesses to new customers.

The food and beverage sector contributes far beyond our local market. South Australian food and food products enjoy global recognition and are in high demand. As an export market, our food exports are an essential factor of our state's economy and a major component of our goodwill. Our meat, seafood, grains, wines, processed foods and horticultural produce generate substantial export dollars. These products have been pushed and lauded by Catherine Sayer and her team at Food SA across the globe.

In the 2019-20 financial year, our state's food and wine exports were valued at \$4.9 billion. Food is essential to the South Australian economy. It invigorates agricultural productivity, increases our export potential, raises tourism appeal, lifts job creation and adds value to our processing and production. Our food and wine industry has become a major drawcard for visitors. South Australia's reputation for high-quality produce and gourmet experiences attracts domestic and international tourists alike. This reputation supports not only the food and wine sector but accommodation, hospitality, transportation, the arts and other tourism-related endeavours.

If I may, I would like to indulge the chamber with some thoughts on our famous food-producing regions and sectors. Starting west, Eyre Peninsula is internationally renowned for its seafood. Tuna, varieties of marine finfish, abalone, mussels, oysters, prawns, marron and now a growing algae and seaweed industry all base themselves in the pristine waters between Ceduna and Whyalla. Inland, we have our extensive dry-cropping grains belt, producing tonnage of wheat, barley, lentils and lucerne to name just a few crops for both domestic markets and export.

Heading to our central coastal zones, we find more fishing industries, such as cockles, sardines, kingfish, mulloway and snapper. Our Indigenous foods are a swiftly growing sector. From proteins such as kangaroo and emu to endemic horticulture like the quandong tree, wattleseeds, finger limes and bush tomatoes, there seems to be no halt to the demand of these foods and their uses. We see our pastoral zones spreading right across the state, producing top-quality lamb. I admit if I had not eaten fairly recently I would be getting quite hungry talking about and thinking about all of these foods.

The Adelaide Hills, Adelaide Plains and Fleurieu are marketed globally as a gourmet tourism destination, with some of the best summer fruits going. Tourist meccas like Hahndorf service thousands of visitors every week for strawberries and chocolates, and some of the best country bakeries are tucked in towns like Clarendon and Port Elliot. In the South-East of South Australia, the premium proteins continue with more export-quality lamb and our famous rock lobster industry. We can find salmon, mullet, giant mulloway, squid, tommies, whiting, garfish, flathead and trevally along the coast.

In my home district of the Riverland, we see some of the world's best citrus crops, stone fruit, olive oil and honey and the bulk of our beautiful almond orchards. I have not even touched upon our famous winemakers, distilleries and craft beer industries. Clare, McLaren Vale and Barossa have all become global brands in a competitive space.

Once again, I would like to thank Catherine Sayer for her incredible work over the past 12 years as the CEO of Food SA. She has assisted in bringing new markets to our growers and our producers. This leads to more jobs, more production and greater growth for South Australia and our South Australian economy.

Catherine is also someone that I personally have a great deal of respect and admiration for. Over the past few years, I have got to know Catherine professionally, and I have admired her strength of character, her tenacity and her approachability. She is smart, she is capable, and I know that the South Australian food industry will miss her dearly. I wish Catherine all the best in her new role supporting Australian family businesses. I hope she is able to continue her contribution to community through her board positions with Camp Quality and Glenelg Football Club. With that, I commend the motion to the chamber.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (16:58): I move:

That this council—

1. Celebrates an unprecedented 32 nations competing in the premier women's international sporting event;
2. Congratulates Football Australia and New Zealand Football for jointly staging and organising the tournament, including locally at Hindmarsh Stadium;
3. Encourages South Australians to get behind locally hosted games which will include teams from Brazil, Panama, China, Haiti, Korea, Morocco, and England;
4. Welcomes the many football fans coming from all parts of the world to view matches; and
5. Recognises the opportunities this world-class event will create in women's sports participation rates and appeals to the South Australian government to provide further support to upgrade training and playing facilities for local and regional women's football competitions.

In under 49 days, one of the biggest football tournaments on earth will kick off simultaneously in New Zealand and Australia: 32 of the world's footballing nations will be vying for the Women's World Cup, the ninth edition of this tournament and, no doubt, the most anticipated in its relatively short history. Four-time and current holders, the United States, are the logical favourites. This will be the first time the tournament is co-hosted by two countries and played in the Southern Hemisphere and also in the Oceania region.

There will be 64 matches played in eight groups of four teams, with groups shared equally here and in New Zealand. The opening match and opening ceremony take place at Eden Park in

Auckland on 20 July between New Zealand and Norway. Later that day, Australia (the Matildas) take on the Republic of Ireland at Stadium Australia in Sydney before a sell-out crowd of more than 80,000.

The Matildas are ranked 12th in the world and will also face Canada and Nigeria in first-round matches of group B, but are favoured to progress through to the round of 16, and hopefully beyond, and better their previous qualifying record of the quarterfinal stage. This is why playing before a home crowd will be a psychological advantage.

It also helps having arguably the best female player currently in the world as our captain. Sam Kerr is a sensation in England, where she has led Chelsea to consecutive Women's Super League titles and FA Cup glory, scoring a high of 28 goals in all competitions this season, including the winning goal in Chelsea's FA Cup triumph over Manchester United. Sam is our rock star athlete, the female David Beckham, a real ticket magnet for the tournament. She has become the first woman to win the England Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year trophy two years in a row, a feat completed by only two men: Cristiano Ronaldo and Thierry Henry. These are her feats in the UK.

Kerr has also swept all before her in the USA as the all-time leading goal scorer in the National Women's Soccer League, as well as Australia's W-League. Sam made her debut for Australia at the age of 15 in 2009 and has since represented Australia at three World Cups, four Asian Football Confederation Women's Asian Cup tournaments, and two Olympics. She was the Young Australian of the Year in 2018 and also an Order of Australia Medal recipient.

It seems elite sporting ability runs deep in her DNA. Kerr's father, Roger, was born to an English father who was a featherweight boxing champion and an Indian mother who played basketball in Calcutta. He played professional Australian Rules football in Western Australia. Her brother, Daniel, played for the West Coast Eagles, while on her mother Roxanne's side, Sam's grandfather and uncles were WAFL players, while another uncle—and you might recall this jockey, Mr President—Johnny Miller, was a champion jockey in the 1960s, riding Galilee in winning the 1966 Melbourne Cup.

Sam actually played Australian Rules football until the age of 12 when she had to switch codes due to gender restrictions. Chelsea manager, Emma Hayes, said of Sam, and I quote:

You (Australians) should cherish her. You have the most unbelievable leader. She is golden in every way, shape and form. She's one of the best I have ever coached. She's outstanding. She manages pressure. She manages expectations. She does it with joy. She does it with a smile on her face and I would not trade Sam Kerr for any other player in the world.

Sam Kerr is a woman of few words—she lets her boots do the talking. She is surrounded by players in the Matildas based at elite clubs in elite leagues: Lyon's Ellie Carpenter, Emily van Egmond of San Diego Wave, Racing Louisville's Alex Chidiac, Caitlin Foord of Arsenal, and Manchester City trio, Mary Fowler, Hayley Raso and Alanna Kennedy among them.

Under manager, Tony Gustavsson, Australia will also go into a major tournament in better form than ever, having beaten a number of heavyweights in women's football, including England, Denmark, Sweden and Spain. The Matildas finished fourth in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. There were a couple of South Australian names in the squad: Charlotte Grant and Matilda McNamara are the Adelaide connections in the squad. There is a national women's competition, as we know, in Australia that has attracted a number of talented players as the popularity of the game grows.

I want to go back to the fact that Adelaide will be one of the host cities, with five matches being played at a facelifted Hindmarsh Stadium. The teams coming here include England, Haiti, China and Denmark, with a round 16 match also scheduled. Make no mistake, this will be a massive sporting event, the biggest event held here since the Olympics, and ticket sales are already tipping record levels, such is the attraction of the competition and level of the players.

Many will be surprised to know that women's football has a long history dating back to 1895, when the British Ladies' Football Club played their first match. A crowd of 10,000 watched the Blues play the Reds. The media coverage was a little condescending, with *The Westminster Gazette*

saying, 'The match proved football was not impossible for women and that as a novel and interesting experiment it might have significant far-reaching results.'

In Australia, there were reports that ladies' teams were being set up in New South Wales as early as 1903, with the first public match between two women's teams, North Brisbane and South Brisbane, being played in 1921 at the then Brisbane Cricket Ground, also known as the Gabba, and there were 10,000 in attendance.

Sadly, interest petered out after the English Football Association banned women's football, saying, 'The game of football is quite unsuitable for females and ought not be encouraged.' I can report, and gladly report, that the English FA has since retracted those views, considering the popularity of this game on a global scale as well as at club level in Europe and elsewhere around the world now.

A committee in Australia declared that football was 'medically inappropriate' for women to play and instead encouraged females to take up swimming, rowing, gymnastics, cycling and horseback riding. However, the game managed to survive, with national championships played in the 1970s. A national team played in the Asian championships and was involved in later international competitions.

The quirky nickname the Matildas came into being at the 1995 World Cup, following, ironically, a phone poll on SBS television. On the shortlist was the Soccertoos, the Lorikeets, the Waratahs, the Blue Flyers and the Matildas, which of course is the name that eventually managed to stick. It is just as well it did, as the Matildas are actually regarded as probably the eminent women's sporting team in Australia.

In closing, the tournament, as I said, kicks off in July, and of course Sam Kerr will hold the hopes of a nation on her slender shoulders as the Matildas seek to go better than their best quarterfinal finish. Their opponents in group B include Nigeria and Canada. I commend the motion the chamber.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. D.G.E. Hood.

GENDER

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. S.L. Game:

That this council—

1. Accepts that there are biologically two sexes and, in turn, a reflection of two genders;
2. Acknowledges that two genders have been accepted common knowledge for most of history;
3. Recognises that the idea of binary genders not being accepted language is denigrating to both males and females and harmful to our traditions; and
4. Acknowledges the importance of gendered language in society, specifically for explicit language and communication.

(Continued from 3 May 2023.)

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (17:09): I rise to speak to indicate my support for the motion from the Hon. Sarah Game and to place some comments on the record. It is important we affirm the scientific fact of biology that for the vast majority of the population, in fact 99 per cent of the population, there are two sexes and two genders.

I think it is also important to acknowledge, though, that there are medical and genetic situations where the sex of a person is not straightforward, known as non-dimorphic sexual development. Turner syndrome, Klinefelter syndrome, ovotestis and vaginal agenesis are all intersex syndromes, and it is estimated in literature that approximately 1 per cent of our population have intersex variations. We must always be respectful to these individuals and ensure they do not feel stigmatised in society.

While there is approximately 1 per cent of the population born with non-dimorphic sexual development that impacts their gender allocation, these are not the groups calling for changes in our language. As Australian journalist Claire Lehmann recently wrote:

In the human species, to be a woman meant you were not a biological male, and to be a man meant you were not a biological female. This distinction was not a function of bigotry: it was just how the English language worked.

We should not be cancelling the use of gendered language used by the majority of people for a minority. I am certainly sympathetic and empathetic towards those who are confused about their gender; I cannot imagine what that would be like. It is important that we are free to explore self-determination; however, it cannot be at the expense of others, particularly when in this case others are women and represent half of the state's population.

We find ourselves in a situation where we cannot be fair and equal, and we should not expend the rights and safety of the many women to avoid offending a small few. There are many women in our state, in our country and around the world who, by virtue of being biologically female and acknowledging that fact, are being sidelined, minimised and harassed by those who push radical gender ideology. The reality is that some women are speaking out because they feel unsafe, and we should not be ignoring these cries.

I believe that the majority of South Australians share my views on gender, and recent sentiment has shown that the South Australian community simply want us to do what we have been elected to do, and that is to get on with the job of governing for the betterment of the state. The people of South Australia expect us to be focusing on the issues that matter—record ramping, the skyrocketing cost of living, housing affordability and availability, workforce shortages and better regional health outcomes. These are the issues that matter.

Again, I indicate that I support this motion. Whilst it is important to clarify our positions, I feel it unnecessary to give this issue further airtime. We all just simply need to move on.

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (17:12): I rise today to speak in support of the motion from the Hon. Sarah Game MLC. As a woman, I accept that there are two biological sexes. I acknowledge that this has been the case throughout history and continues to this day.

Ninety-nine per cent of our society's genders are their birth genders, based on the 2021 Census; therefore, gender identity is not an issue for the vast majority. A mammoth portion of our society are biologically men and women. I agree with Ms Game that this needs to be acknowledged and respected. Respect is required right across our community, and this issue is no different. We should not be afraid to use such terms as 'women' and 'men'. We should be proud to be a woman or a man, a boy or a girl.

One area I will touch on is safety for women. The definition of a woman should not be a complicated issue. It should be about ensuring women are safe and supported, where required. All women deserve to be safe and secure, whether it be safety in sport, safety in toilets, or safety in the prison system. We must protect those who are physically smaller and potentially at risk.

This is paramount, and I commend the work done by Senator Claire Chandler in this space. Senator Chandler has flagged concerns relating to women's sport and ensuring women's sport is protected, ensuring change rooms are safe and no on-field issues occur with non-biological women participating in women's sport. The same can be said for our justice system, where women's prisons should be for biological women only. All women deserve to be safe and secure.

Gender wars are not needed. Respect for genders is required. It is okay to be a woman or a man. It is okay to live your life how you see fit. In this place, we must focus on what is most important: the people of South Australia. The people of South Australia are more focused on the cost-of-living crisis, the housing crisis, the skills shortage and the energy crisis. The people of South Australia would like us to focus on these areas.

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (17:14): As elected members, I believe we have a responsibility to represent the views and the values of our constituents to the best of our ability. There are so many issues South Australians are facing, whether it be rising cost-of-living pressures, rising power prices, a crumbling healthcare system, lagging education standards—the list goes on.

I do not believe that this is an issue that the parliament should be focusing its time on, particularly with the current cost-of-living crisis. Yet, it seems in recent times the notion of sex and gender has come up in different ways in this place and across society more broadly. With that in

mind, I will keep my contribution brief so that we can get back to what I believe South Australians believe their members of parliament should be spending their time focusing on.

Gender and sex have largely been accepted as non-controversial for most of human history. It seems absurd that this chamber should need to affirm and state what has been accepted for thousands of years. Is it really the place of a parliamentary chamber to affirm the same, rather than accept in general terms the societal norms and customs which have permeated and evolved through society since humanity developed the wonder of language?

From a young age you were taught that there are two sex chromosomes: females have two copies of the X chromosome while males have one X and one Y chromosome, noting that there are some rare genetic conditions where this may differ. Teaching and believing that somehow gender and sex is non-binary is reminiscent of the novel *1984*, where people are conditioned to believe that two plus two is five. It is somewhat illogical and makes you wonder whether we are heading down a path where we will ignore the long-established facts of science and biology because there is a small minority agitating for us to believe in non evidence-based ideology. Frankly, it is a dangerous and slippery slope.

As a member of parliament I am—and I hope my colleagues are—here to make fair, rational and reasonable decisions that benefit the greatest number of people across our state. These decisions are not always easy; we know that they are not always popular. At the risk of no doubt causing some offence, which is most certainly not my intention, I cannot in good faith support that sex is somehow fluid in nature.

It has been widely accepted for many centuries that there are two sexes: one male and the other female. We are a tolerant and accepting society. We allow individuals to explore and express their views and opinions freely, as we should, without discrimination or prejudice. I have no doubt that the extreme left-wing activists will seize on this motion and see it as divisive and somehow discriminatory.

We cannot be pushed by a small and very vocal group of activists; rather, contrary to such divisive views of the world, we must as a community be inclusive of all people, no matter what they believe. All said, the harm we will do by making policy decisions based on activist minority groups who act to silence others, themselves doing so in the interests of inclusion and diversity, will be devastating.

If there are people in our community who wish to be gender fluid, no-one is stopping them. However, on the other hand, I do not believe that we should change to the detriment of the majority our language and how we have communicated consistently in years gone by. In a world in which the concept of gender is being radicalised, politicised and weaponised, it is important that we push back on the agenda of the radical left.

We increasingly hear a loud minority pushing for the use of gender-neutral terms. Contrary to mainstream views, there are sections of our community demanding that we use, for risk of offence, language like 'chest feeding' instead of 'breast feeding'; 'birthing parent' instead of 'mother'; a push by some for the removal of terms like 'he' or 'she', with the replacement of 'them' and 'their' across the board; where we see some senior public servants struggle to define a woman; where there is a need to fight to ensure that women's scholarships in areas of low representation, in areas, for example, like engineering or science, do in fact go to women; and where we continue to see a global fight, it seems, to protect the integrity of women's sport and women's use of their own bathrooms.

I am not sure when it became controversial to say that men should not participate in women's sport, and that it poses a risk to female players for men to do so, not to mention the fact that it is not fair as men are biologically built differently and therefore have an advantage, or that certain women feel unsafe at the idea that men could use a female bathroom.

In April, we saw a report in *The Advertiser* about a mother suing after her child was allegedly given a chest binder, which is an undergarment used to flatten breast tissue, in her 13-year-old son's room and allegedly given gender-affirming therapy. Amber's family lives in Maine, USA, where school policy excludes parents from gender-affirming counselling because of the risk that some parents may react negatively to or try to stop their child's transition, according to reporting by the *New York Post*

and the *Maine Wire*. The mum was not aware that the gender-transitioning discussions had continued in secret until she found the chest binder.

In May, we saw reports in *The Advertiser* of a parliamentary committee in this parliament which asked councils to remove gendered pronouns from their by-laws, including the words 'he' and 'she', with a preference for gender-neutral language rather than gender-specific language. I think many Australians are concerned with this trajectory, and I am sure that they are sick of being called transphobic or even homophobic by the extreme left for what are frankly commonsense views on protecting the rights for women to feel safe or merely upholding the notion of sex and gender, which they have been taught for decades and which has been around for millennia. Simply put, however, this place should be focusing on more important issues at hand. With that, I support the motion.

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (17:21): I rise to add my comments in support of the honourable member's motion. As someone who has invariably been called pale, male, and sometimes stale, there are those who will take offence that I even hold an opinion on this topic. However, mine is a view firmly based on scientific facts, and shared by an overwhelming majority of South Australians.

I want to say at this point that I take each person at face value and appreciate them for their individuality. Small-I liberalism, which forms a key pillar of the ideology of the Liberal Party, ensures that the individual is protected against the tyranny of the many, protecting minorities who the collective view of the masses might otherwise drown out.

However, the individual's right to choose does not extend to the protection of those whose ideas are not rooted in fact or reality. There are, allegedly, so many new genders being concocted that it is hard to keep up with them and their respective pronouns. Indeed, the online lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender news network has written, and I quote:

There is no definitive answer as to how many transgender pronouns there are, as people are always creating new ones...

I remain open-minded and respectful, but so flimsy is the radical gender theory from the collective left that their glass jaw is on display with their treatment of genuine feminists. Witness the vitriolic, the over-reactive and the violent treatment of feminists such as Kellie-Jay Keen, J.K. Rowling, Germaine Greer and Victorian MP Moira Deeming. I may not agree with all their views on these matters, but the type of feminism they fight for is undoubtedly pro-women.

Those who are leveraging the attack on these women, and on women's sport and women's public spaces in general, are wholly embedded in identity politics and intersectionality, and their primary focus on the struggles of transgender people in enlightened First World democracies is at the expense of women.

I acknowledge that there are some people who are born with ambiguous genitalia, considered intersex, and those who experience gender dysphoria. However, we know that these issues only affect approximately 1.7 per cent of people who are born intersex, and somewhere between 0.002 per cent and 0.014 per cent of individuals who are diagnosed with gender dysphoria.

As a liberal democracy, we must not discount the needs of these people. We must afford them equal protections and rights as we are all afforded; however, this does not mean that we must upend our thinking of what defines a woman or a man, or that gender exists on a never-ending spectrum. Instead, we can acknowledge and respect each other's differences without removing all gendered language from our vernacular.

I disagree with those who would overemphasise our differences at the expense of acknowledging our inherent sameness—that we are all unique individuals on our path to leading fulfilling and meaningful lives. Vitriolic attacks on biological females who want to maintain safe and separate spaces for women have no place in this debate. To be traditionally pro-women should not warrant being labelled a bigot.

We must respect each other's views while acknowledging the biological reality that underpins the objective foundation that human beings are typically born into one of two genders. To do otherwise is to invalidate both men and women alike, and is fundamentally anti-science and anti-human.

In commending the objective of this motion to the chamber I would only convey my disappointment that our time is consumed by defending established facts that are acknowledged and understood by the majority of South Australians. I would prefer nothing more than to be debating real issues our communities are dealing with daily, such as the high cost of living, the housing crisis and improving access to medical treatment in our regions. I know this place can do better, and I know our community demands it of us.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (17:25): I rise somewhat briefly to affirm that the Greens will be opposing this motion. Why? Because we must respect the science on sex and gender, and variations in sex beyond the binary have been acknowledged globally for many years. Indeed, as the Hon. Ben Hood just touched upon, they cover approximately 1.7 per cent of our population.

However, simplistic approaches to sex and gender start even before we are born. Are they a girl or a boy? That question is often asked of expecting parents, almost out of habit. Some seem to think that the answer is easy, but biology is far more complicated and far more interesting. Some of us, some 1.7 per cent of us, are born with variations in sexual development—also known as intersex conditions or variations.

It is estimated that up to 1.7 per cent of the population has an intersex trait and approximately 0.5 per cent, or one-half of a per cent—have clinically identifiable sexual reproductive variations. Yet people often assume that the world is divided neatly into two groups of people—male and female—and that everyone's biological and genetic characteristics fit into one of those two categories. This, of course, is not always the case.

There are millions of people around the world who have sexual characteristics that do not fit typical binary notions of male or female bodies. Many, though not all, of these people identify as intersex. Intersex is an umbrella term used to describe a wide range of natural variations that affect genitals, gonads, hormones, chromosomes, and reproductive organs. Sometimes these characteristics are visible at birth, sometimes they appear at puberty, and sometimes they are not physically apparent at all.

According to experts, about 1.7 per cent of the population is born with these intersex traits. It sounds small—in fact, it was just dismissed—but to assist MLCs with understanding what 1.7 per cent is, it is comparable to the number of people born with red hair. There is at least one in this parliament, there is at least one in the Senate, and I am sure we have all met somebody with red hair. Ask yourself: have you ever met somebody with red hair? It is that common, so it is not that rare at all really.

Despite this, the term intersex is still widely misunderstood, and intersex people are massively under-represented. Many intersex children undergo surgery in an effort to supposedly normalise them, even where those interventions are often invasive, irreversible and not performed for emergency reasons. Although doctors and parents may be well-meaning, the reality is that the procedures performed on intersex children can cause major problems, including infertility, pain, incontinence and lifelong psychological suffering. All this, just to make children conform to society's idea of what a girl or a boy should look like.

I refer members to research by Amnesty International that has highlighted how this constitutes a human rights violation. These interventions are often performed on children who are too young to meaningfully participate in decisions about their own bodies and parents who are not often properly informed about the potential risks.

States like ours have a duty to combat harmful stereotypes about gender and diversity. Instead, many choose to subject children to needless operations just to make them fit. Being intersex has nothing to do with being transgender. Our physical sexual characteristics have nothing to do with how we consider our gender identity or who we are attracted to. The word 'transgender' or 'trans' is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. The word 'intersex' relates to physical sexual characteristics and not to an internal sense of identity. An intersex person may also identify as trans, but they are separate things because gender and sex are separate. An intersex person may be straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual or asexual and may identify as female, male, both or neither.

Both intersex and trans people have the right to choose their own gender identity and should never be forced to live with their bodies or identities that they do not feel comfortable with. Society must become more open to all the diversity that being a person means. Trans and gender-diverse people should have the right to be free from discrimination and have autonomy over their bodies. Despite the societal progress made, it is clear that there are still multiple barriers preventing transgender and gender-diverse people from affirming their identities.

The Greens understand the importance of funding for trans and gender-diverse needs to be driven by principles of self-determination, bodily autonomy and co-design. No-one's body should be stigmatised, and intersex people have the right to bodily integrity, including personal consent to medical or surgical interventions. Acceptance of a person's gender identity requires at least some acknowledgment that they are natural and real—natural and real—and that is the problem with this motion: a fundamental misunderstanding and misrepresentation of sex, gender and sexuality, opening the door for attacks on transgender, non-binary and gender-nonconforming individuals and groups.

Using gender-neutral language does not, in fact, denigrate or deny the validity of the identification of cisgendered people. We use collective nouns daily that are not gendered. Some examples are people, citizens, residents, voters, employees, students, children and adults. None of these stop individuals using gendered pronouns or titles for themselves. Gender-neutral language is inclusive of all genders and recognises that all humans are innately worthy regardless of how they identify.

As representatives of our community, we cannot let this chamber be used to justify discrimination. The simple male/female binary does not effectively express the normal range of being human. Understanding this and incorporating it into our legislation and policies offers better possibilities, greater equity and more joy for our state. Our children should be allowed to grow up the way they are. All people deserve to live free of shame, stigma and pain, especially if they are neither a boy nor a girl.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (17:33): I want to speak very briefly against the motion. In so doing, I reinforce the comments made by my colleague the Hon. Tammy Franks that this motion is wrong because it is based on false assumptions being made about sex that do not have an evidentiary base. I also find this motion to be wrong in terms of its political focus. It is part of a transphobic and intersexphobic campaign that the One Nation Party has been running at a national level. They are now importing it into South Australia, and I think we should not be having resolutions like this that are about dividing the community taking up our time here in this chamber.

I noted a number of members of the Liberal opposition stood up and spoke on this motion and all remarked that it should not be a priority for the parliament. If that is the case, I am not sure why they have all seen the need to stand up and comment on it, particularly when one considers that, in the context of a 14-hour debate last night on anti-protesting laws, there was a five-minute contribution from the opposition on the issue.

Next week, we are going to be dealing with residential tenancies. If they are serious about the cost-of-living crisis, I hope they all engage on that debate. I do not want to see this sort of divisive stuff being dealt with in our parliament. I wanted to speak because I am an out and proud gay man. I am a member of the LGBTI community, and I see this sort of stuff as being an extension of the homophobia that has been directed to people like me in the past. So I am very much against it, and I really want to call it out for what it is.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (17:35): I rise to support the motion of the Hon. Ms Game. To be honest, if I were drafting the motion, I would have drafted it somewhat differently. I am not entirely happy with some of the wording, but I do not want that to take away from my support for what she is trying to do because her intent seems clear to me, and that is to establish essentially the long-accepted belief, if you like, the long-accepted practice, the long-accepted view, that there are two sexes and two genders and in fact, as she stated when introducing this motion, gender is determined by biological sex, and I agree. It is basic science and it should be uncomplicated, in my view.

For most of history, it has been collectively accepted that sex is binary and people are born either male or female, with very few exceptions. Yes, there are people who are born intersex. There are people who experience gender dysphoria. No-one is disputing that. That is a fact. I did not hear anyone dispute that. In no way should those people be treated in any less a way than anyone else. No-one is arguing for that either. But it is a fact that throughout history, most societies have always accepted that it was self-evident and undisputed that a newborn's gender was either male or female.

That is when a child is born, but I remember my own circumstance even prior to that when I went to have the 22-week scan with my wife when Lisa was pregnant. They scanned the womb, and the doctor there said, 'Would you like to know what sex your baby is?' We said, 'Yes, we would.' The doctor said, 'It's a girl.' We said, 'Are you sure?' She said yes. Even at that very early stage, it was self-evident that it was either male or female. There was no discussion of any other sex, of course.

One's sex is not based on how one feels: it is a matter of biology and anatomy. This relatively new concept of being able to choose your own gender is having detrimental ramifications in many aspects of our society, in my view. We are seeing biological males, for example, competing with biological females, and those biological males are winning medals that should have been awarded to the biological girls or women who would not have to compete with them in other circumstances.

I know of instances where young South Australian girls are playing contact sports alongside boys identifying as girls who are afraid of getting injured by those boys identifying as girls, yet they and their parents feel they cannot speak up for fear of being labelled a bigot, causing some sort of disturbance or even making the people who are identifying that way feel uncomfortable. I am sure they do not want to do that either, in most cases.

There are also more and more reports of biological males opting to use girls' and women's change rooms and their toilets, for example, making many biological females extremely uncomfortable. I have sympathy with that. I can imagine that would be uncomfortable. It appears that girls and women in particular have been unnecessarily disadvantaged by the agenda to blur the lines around gender identity, which I do not accept.

When I recently raised the issue of gender-neutral language in the parliament standing orders, I had a huge response from the community, something like 500-plus emails to my office, individual unique emails to my office, from people who strongly supported my position. I will quote from one particularly. They all had this similar theme, but one of them stated this in particular: 'Politicians should focus on real issues and not play silly woke word games.' That is a strong position and not everyone is going to see it that way, but that was the general nature of the response I got in more than 500 typed emails.

So I strongly support this motion. I do so with no intention to cause offence. I hope it does not do that. It is certainly not something I want to do. I do not seek to cause any offence. I think if people want to claim to have this gender or that gender that is entirely up to them, but to me, I do not accept it. To me, there are two genders. There are two sexes, and that is it.

I think I would echo the comments of my colleagues as well: I do wish that we could move on from these sorts of debates and focus on the sorts of things that I think the general public expects us to focus on; that is, the cost-of-living crisis, record levels of ramping at the moment and the housing crisis, as the Hon. Mr Simms outlined. These are the real issues that I think people have elected us to this place to deal with and not some of these, what you might call, other issues.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (17:39): I have asked the chamber to recognise that there are two biological sexes, which are determined at fertilisation, and also the importance of gendered language. The reason I did that is because it was very clearly expressed to me by the community that that was important to them, so I think there has been a complete misread. Many members of the community are actually very concerned about what they see as a slippery slope of a sex confusion pandemic amongst young people, and they see the definition and establishment of male and female in gendered language as extremely important.

We have a situation where teachers are afraid to use basic terms like 'boys' and 'girls' and school principals have confided in me that they are afraid of their own job loss if they do not take an

affirmation-only approach with children in their care, despite feeling that mental health issues or family breakdown are in fact responsible.

I do thank the Liberals for their support, particularly with regard to safety of women in sport and other environments, but I disagree that it is not important to the community. It has been expressed loud and clear to me that it is important to the community. I just want to comment as well that I find it really unusual, and it is in fact very unsatisfactory, that we have a situation where the government has not bothered to comment on the motion. I think, again, that is a complete misread of how the community feel. Many in the community are highly distressed about what they perceive as a woke agenda being pushed in schools and indoctrinating young people and this affirmation-only approach, as I have said.

As I said when I introduced the motion and will repeat now, there is no place for bullying or discrimination, but that needs to extend to children, parents and members of the community who understand that there are two biological sexes, male and female, determined at fertilisation and wish to protect the use of gendered language.

The council divided on the motion:

Ayes4
 Noes.....9
 Majority5

AYES

Centofanti, N.J.	Game, S.L. (teller)	Henderson, L.A.
Hood, B.R.		

NOES

Bourke, E.S.	Franks, T.A. (teller)	Hanson, J.E.
Hunter, I.K.	Maher, K.J.	Martin, R.B.
Ngo, T.T.	Pnevmatikos, I.	Simms, R.A.

PAIRS

Lee, J.S.	Wortley, R.P.	Hood, D.G.E.
Scriven, C.M.	Girolamo, H.M.	Lensink, J.M.A.

Motion thus negatived.

Bills

SUMMARY OFFENCES (OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC PLACES) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The House of Assembly agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council without any amendment.

SUPPLY BILL 2023

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

At 17:49 the council adjourned until Thursday 1 June 2023 at 14:15.

*Answers to Questions***AUTISM SUPPORT**

208 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What is the total number of autism lead teachers that will undertake training prior to commencing in their role?
2. When will training be offered?
3. When will the training commence?
4. How long will the training take to complete?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

All autism inclusion teachers undertake ongoing training and professional development as part of their role. Initial training and professional development commenced in week 1 of term 1 2023.

AUTISM SUPPORT

209 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What is the total cost of the autism lead teachers training?
2. How will the training be funded?
3. Is the training cost included in the \$28.8million provided for this initiative in the 2022-23 state budget?
4. Who will conduct the training?
5. Will Autism SA be involved in delivering the training?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

Initial training for autism inclusion teachers is being provided by Positive Partnerships, a national initiative funded by the Australian government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism program. Positive Partnerships provide free professional learning for educators and parents/carers across Australia.

Ongoing training is being designed and delivered by the department's autism inclusion team within the existing departmental budget.

AUTISM SUPPORT

210 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. Will the autism lead teachers receive additional remuneration for their appointment to this role?
2. If yes, what is the total additional remuneration per teacher?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

There is no additional remuneration for autism inclusion teachers.

AUTISM SUPPORT

211 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What modelling has been undertaken on the number of preschool children, and primary and high school students that are expected to be diagnosed with autism over the next four years?
2. What is the anticipated increase in the number of preschool children, and primary and high school students expected to be diagnosed with autism over the next four years?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

There is no modelling by the Department for Education for the number of preschool and school aged children expected to be diagnosed with autism.

AUTISM SUPPORT

212 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What is the total number of young people in South Australia attending government primary schools who are learning with autism?
2. Do the numbers vary by geographical area?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

It is not possible to categorically quantify the number of autistic children attending government primary schools.

The proportion of autistic children and young people does vary by geographical area.

AUTISM SUPPORT

213 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What is the total number of children in South Australia attending government preschools who are learning with autism?
2. How many additional autism-qualified staff will be appointed to government preschools this financial year?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

It is not possible to categorically quantify the number of autistic children attending preschools.

As part of our election commitment to make autism-qualified staff in preschools a preferred criterion, all preschool job advertisements now include qualifications in autism (or equivalent experience where considered appropriate) as desirable.

AUTISM SUPPORT

214 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (8 February 2023). Can the Premier advise:

1. What is the total number of students in South Australia attending government high schools who are learning with autism?
2. Do the numbers vary by geographical area?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

It is not possible to categorically quantify the number of autistic children and young people attending government high schools.

The proportion of autistic children and young people does vary by geographical area.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ATTENDANCE

216 The Hon. S.L. GAME (8 February 2023). Can the Minister for Education, Training and Skills advise:

1. In relation to school non-attendance, student disengagement, and school refusal:
 - (a) What government-led programs are currently activated to increase student engagement, attendance, and wellbeing?
 - (b) How is the government monitoring the impact and outcomes on engagement, attendance and wellbeing of those programs?
 - (c) How is the government monitoring engagement of students in schools, separate to attendance measures alone?
2. In relation to school wellbeing officers (and relevant similar staff of other titles):
 - (a) What is the current ratio of wellbeing officers to students at public schools?
 - (b) What is the targeted/ideal ratio of wellbeing officers to students based on available research and evidence?

(c) What was the government's pledge for the number of wellbeing officers in state schools prior to and post-election?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Skills and Training has advised:

The Malinauskas Labor government has a strong focus on student wellbeing to support every child. This includes:

- 100 FTE Mental Health and Learning Support Specialists, including 55 FTE mental health practitioners, being rolled out as part of the government's election commitment.
- Autism inclusion teachers have been appointed at primary schools and are being trained to provide expertise in their schools to improve support for students with autism. This delivers on a key election commitment.
- Support for students experiencing challenges to their attendance and engagement is provided by the Department for Education Student Support Services, which includes a dedicated social work–truancy service.
- A pilot is now underway with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation, KWY, which is working with Aboriginal families to improve attendance and engagement of children and young people with concerning school attendance.
- There are a number of Department for Education policies and initiatives which seek to increase student engagement, attendance, and wellbeing of Aboriginal learners, including:
- Clontarf school-based academies—providing a boys-only program embedded in identified school sites, using sport and other activities to build school and community engagement.
- Aboriginal workforce—There are 11 Aboriginal community team leaders and 19 Aboriginal services engagement officers based within local education offices. They work in partnership with student support services to support student attendance, social and emotional wellbeing, engagement and participation in learning.
- Flexible learning options (FLO) is a school strategy for students who have significant personal barriers that are preventing them from successfully engaging with school teaching and learning programs. There is a redesign of FLO underway.
- The department is supporting 41 schools over three years to implement the school-wide Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework. Positive Behaviour for Learning is an evidence-based framework that promotes improved behaviour and learning outcomes for students.
- All schools have a student wellbeing leader to support the wellbeing of individual students and whole school approaches.
- 358 schools currently have a pastoral care worker under the National Student Wellbeing Program.

The government has a strong commitment to evaluation and program level monitoring across the range of ongoing programs and new initiatives. This often includes engaging academic institutions to undertake external evaluations.

Student wellbeing leaders

Student wellbeing leaders are qualified teachers who work in partnership with students, parents and carers, educators and the wider community to promote and safeguard student wellbeing and optimise learning.

The department funds every school to appoint a student wellbeing leader. These roles are separate to the government's election commitments.

AUTISM SUPPORT

238 The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (22 February 2023). Can the Minister for Education, Training and Skills, advise:

1. For the financial years of 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (separated by financial year) how much funding was provided by the Department for Education to Autism SA?
2. How much funding was provided to Autism SA by the Department for Education in the 2022-23 budget?
3. What specific programs did funding in the 2022-23 budget support and how much did each program receive?

4. How much funding was provided to Autism SA by the Department for Education in the 2022-23 Mid-Year Budget Review?
5. What specific programs did funding in 2022-23 MYBR support and how much did each program receive?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Training and Skills has advised:

The Department for Education has an agreement with Autism SA for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 January 2025 to assist the department to deliver the Early Intervention Program and School Support Program in government and non-government schools and preschools. Autism SA delivers both programs within the agreement and the funding provided.

The table below shows grant payments made by the Department for Education to Autism SA for the financial years 2018-19 to 2021-22.

Financial Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Funding paid—GST exc	\$3,027,218	\$6,876,719	\$2,692,000	\$4,577,137.50

FORESTVILLE HOCKEY CLUB DEVELOPMENT

244 The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (23 March 2023). Can the Minister for Education, Skills and Training advise:

1. Is the City of Mitcham the approving body of the Forestville Hockey Club's development at Unley High School?
2. If it is not the City of Mitcham, please name the organisation/entity/body who has the authority to approve the above development?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Minister for Education, Skills and Training has advised:

The Forestville Hockey Club is currently in the process of finalising plans to enable a development application to be submitted for the hockey pitch and associated facilities proposed to be constructed at Unley High School.

COST OF SUNDAY SITTING

245 The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (23 March 2023).

1. What is the total cost to Parliament House, Government House and the Department for Aboriginal Affairs, to bring about an additional parliament sitting day on a Sunday?
2. Will these costs be covered by the existing fund allocation of \$10 million over the next four years to implement the South Australian Indigenous Voice to State Parliament, or are they additional costs?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector):

While budget expenditure of Parliament House and Government House are a matter for the presiding officers of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council and the Governor respectively, I am advised that any costs associated with bringing about an additional parliament sitting day on a Sunday were funded within existing budget allocations and there were no additional costs to Aboriginal Affairs for this purpose.

I am advised that the funding allocated to implement the First Nations Voice to the South Australian Parliament was not used for this purpose.

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

247 The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (26 March 2023). Can the Treasurer advise:

What is the total spend (and a percentage) relating to South Australian businesses from government procurement spending in FY2021-22?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Treasurer has advised:

- 1,842 contracts (above \$55,000) were entered into by SA government, with an estimated total contract value of \$5.77billion, of which:
- 1,160 contracts (or 63 per cent) were entered into with a South Australian business, with an estimated contract value of \$2.23 billion (or 39 per cent) of total estimated contract value.

- Subsequent to our government's 'Making the Public Dollar Work' election commitment to ensure the Auditor-General audits government spending on procurement and annual reports how much is spent on SA and non-SA goods and services, the Department of Treasury and Finance will amend Treasurer's Instructions (accounting policy statements) to include agency spending on procurement as an additional requirement.
- Our government has committed to reviewing the procurements undertaken by the Marshall Liberal government to understand the extent that local businesses were not afforded the opportunity to bid, and determine how the our government can increase opportunities for local businesses.

Furthermore, our government is targeting an increase of \$425 million per year in government spending going to SA businesses away from interstate/overseas suppliers from the current annual government procurement spending.

CONTRACTOR INVOICES

249 The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (26 March 2023). Can the Treasurer provide a list of all contractor invoices (as a percentage and gross total) paid within seven, 15 and 28 days by government departments and agencies since 19 March 2022?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector): The Treasurer has advised:

Accounts payment performance reporting for government departments and agencies is released publicly via the Shared Services SA website on a monthly basis.

These figures include all payments made by public authorities and are not limited to contractor invoices.

Part-month figures and statistics on invoices paid within seven calendar days and 28 calendar days are not available from current reporting practices.

As set out in Treasurer's Instruction 11, the current standard trading terms are 30 days from the date an invoice is received by a public authority.

It is intended that this period will be reduced to 15 calendar days effective 1 July 2024, as part of the Malinauskas government's election commitments around government procurement reform.

To implement this election commitment, the government has adjusted reporting requirements from 1 February 2023 to capture the proportion of invoices by both value and volume paid with 15 calendar days, rather than 20 calendar days.

The 1 July 2024 effective date reflects the programming effort required to change public authority finance systems to calculate and disburse late payment interest automatically using the 15 calendar day time frame.

Some public authorities will find it easier than others to make this change. The change in reporting requirements before the payment requirement takes effect allows the government to assess the capability of public authorities to make this shift.

As can be seen in the attachment, some public authorities are already making nearly all their payments within 15 calendar days. Other public authorities have a significantly lower proportion.

The government is monitoring this closely and liaising with public authorities to ensure they have the necessary arrangements in place to meet the payment requirement target of 15 calendar days by 1 July 2024.

The government intends to implement this change via the tabling of a bill in parliament amending the Late Payment of Government Debts' (Interest) Act 2013, such that penalty interest is automatically applied to invoices not paid with 15 calendar days.

Specific contractor invoice data can be found below subject to the reporting constraints outlined above.

For the period 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2023, approximately 2.909 million invoices were paid with a total value of \$16.944 billion. Of these invoices:

- 92.51 per cent by volume and 90.62 per cent by value were paid in 20 calendar days or less; and
- 98.58 per cent by volume and 97.69 per cent by value were paid in 30 calendar days or less.

As mentioned, from 1 February 2023, reporting has been implemented to measure the volume and value of invoices paid within 15 calendar days or less, consistent with the government's election commitment.

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 March 2023, 517,495 invoices were paid with a total value of approximately \$2.605 billion. Of these invoices:

- 92.84 per cent by volume and 86.37 per cent by value were paid in 15 calendar days or less; and
- 98.67 per cent by volume and 97.60 per cent by value were paid in 30 calendar days or less.