

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 5 June 2024

The **PRESIDENT (Hon. T.J. Stephens)** took the chair at 14:17 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 Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:18): I bring up the 46th report of the committee, 2022-24.
Report received.

Parliamentary Procedure

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs (Hon. K.J. Maher)—

Fees Notice under Acts—

Water Industry Act 2012

Report of the Inquiry into the application of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle in the removal and placement of Aboriginal children and young people in South Australia

By the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development (Hon. C.M. Scriven)—

District Council By-laws—

Clare and Gilbert Valleys—

No. 1—Permits and Penalties

No. 2—Roads

No. 3—Local Government Land

No. 4—Dogs

No. 5—Camping

No. 6—Cats

No. 7—Moveable Signs

Ministerial Statement

HOLDING ON TO OUR FUTURE REPORT

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:19): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to the Holding on to Our Future Report made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Hon. K.A. Hildyard.

HIGNETT, MR B.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:19): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to Bill Hignett OAM made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Hon. J.K. Szakacs.

*Parliamentary Procedure***ANSWERS TABLED**

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

*Question Time***LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY**

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:22): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries regarding livestock health risks.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: Blue-green algae sludge, which poses health risks to both humans and livestock, has begun trickling down the Murray River from New South Wales after the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, the Hon. Susan Close, agreed to accept the flushing into South Australia without warning communities. A press release from the New South Wales government states that, and I quote:

We know residents are worried and we have heard their concerns loud and clear, which is why NSW is taking strong action to send up to 45-50 GL downstream...

The algal blooms have not budged in weeks, even as the weather has cooled down and we don't want to wait any longer because communities are suffering...

The advice from New South Wales Health to the community is not to drink water direct from the river, or to swim, bathe or eat fish in locations where there is a red alert in place...

Not only is the foul smell and colour of the water extremely distressing for the local community, blue-green algae can also pose potential health risks to humans and livestock.

In this press release, the New South Wales government announced it will flush 50 gigalitres of blue-green algae-infested water through the Lower Darling and, I quote, 'appreciates the understanding and support provided by South Australia'. My questions to the minister are:

1. Was the minister aware of her government's support of the 50 gigalitres flush of blue-green algae-infested water downstream?
2. What effect is the water expected to have on irrigators' water needs and farmers' water needs for livestock in South Australia?
3. What action is the minister taking to protect river communities from these risks in South Australia?
4. Did the government assess the risks of releasing this water, and what were the findings?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:24): I thank the honourable member for her question. I have been provided with some accurate information from the Minister for Environment and Water in the other place as follows—

The Hon. N.J. Centofanti: Are you saying the New South Wales government aren't accurate?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: No, I am saying you are not accurate. I am advised that low flow and poor water quality in the Lower Darling River and Medindee Lakes has been a significant issue for western New South Wales communities in recent years, largely driven by a number of mass fish deaths linked to low or stagnant river flow, algal blooms and low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. In recent months, the Lower Darling River, including upstream of Weir 32 and the Menindee Lakes, has been affected by a widespread bloom of predominantly non-toxic blue-green algae. To date, the bloom has posed no immediate threat to potable water supplies or fish health.

On 22 May 2024, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) wrote to Basin Officials Committee members (BOC members) requesting their support of a trial to enable environmental water from the Northern Basin to be released or passed through Menindee Lakes to improve water quality in the Lower Darling River and at Menindee, as well as support connectivity across the basin. At a meeting of BOC on 28 May, senior government officials agreed to a trial release of 50 gigalitres prior to 30 June, and incorporating several strategies to assist in mitigating downstream water quality impacts.

Since 30 May, Weir 32 releases have steadily increased from the base flow rate of 400 megalitres per day towards a planned maximum of 4,000 megalitres per day. DEW provided initial information about the water quality of upstream flows in its River Murray Flow Report, issued on 31 May, and will continue to update this information each week.

The event will result in some poorer quality water from the Darling River entering the River Murray at Wentworth over a period of about six weeks, from around 8 June 2024. It is expected that water entering the Murray from the Darling River may have a higher than usual algal load and turbidity, with actual values dependent on a number of factors, including the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and SA Water officers are working with the MDBA and environmental water holders on mitigation strategies to minimise water quality impacts in South Australia. The following mitigation measures are being worked on by river operators:

- coordination with an upstream environmental watering event;
- management of weir and weir pools to encourage dilution and mixing; and
- diversion of a portion of the flow into Lake Victoria.

While the Darling River algal bloom, according to my advice, is predominantly a non-toxic species, possible impacts from the movement of high volumes of blue-green algae into the Murray include the potential increased treatment load and associated costs for SA Water treatment. Algae could also cause odour issues in reticulated systems that provide non-potable water, potentially affecting households.

Water discharge from the Darling in the first weeks will contain the highest volume of algae as it is pushed down the river ahead of the environmental water pulse, then algae levels are expected to reduce as progressively more mixing occurs. SA Water has already mobilised staff to commence sampling of the Lower Darling River to gain as much information as early as possible to inform water treatment processes and river operations. Water quality will continue to be monitored throughout the event.

I note the allegation that it was kept quiet. I refer back to what I have said earlier in this answer, which was in regard to when it was made publicly available through the River Murray Flow Report issued on 31 May.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:28): Supplementary: what will be the effect to livestock, given the minister is the Minister for Primary Industries?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:28): I believe I have answered that, in terms of the impacts, in terms of it being a non-toxic species.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:28): Supplementary: is the minister confirming that it is absolutely a non-toxic species?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:28): I have answered that.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (14:29): Supplementary: what will be the impact on household water supplies that you mentioned in your response, minister?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:29): Similarly, I answered that in the response.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The honourable Leader of the Opposition, last supplementary question.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:29): Is the minister, given she said in her answer that it was a trial, suggesting that further blue-green algal flushes may be reoccurring in the future?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:29): As I mentioned at the beginning of my question, this is the advice that has been provided from the minister in the other place.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:29): I seek leave to make a brief explanation prior to addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding avian influenza.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: On 6 February this year, the Minister for Primary Industries replied to a question taken on notice on 16 November 2023 regarding the monitoring of wild populations of birds for strains of highly pathogenic avian influenza, which has been spreading around the globe in the last two years. The reply noted that PIRSA continues to be actively involved in the National Avian Influenza Wild Bird Surveillance Program and that the Bolivar wastewater lagoons in the Coorong are key sites for surveillance and sampling of wild bird faeces. The minister in her reply noted that these samples were taken quarterly.

Recently, two different strains of avian influenza have been reported in Victoria, including two egg farms implicated in the outbreak of a H7N3 strain, where over 500,000 chickens have so far been destroyed. It is expected that this outbreak will have an impact on the shelf price of eggs into the future. My questions to the minister are:

1. Have surveillance measures of wild bird populations now increased above quarterly sample testing as a result of the Victorian H7N3 outbreak? If not, is the minister or her department considering more frequent testing of wild bird populations?

2. Have the minister and her colleague the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water received an update from the National Avian Influenza Wild Bird Steering Group since the H7N3 outbreak?

3. How have the minister and her department ensured that all poultry and egg producers in South Australia have the necessary tools to reduce the risk of infection spread and transmission should an outbreak occur here?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:31): I thank the honourable member for her question. My advice is that on 22 May 2024 highly pathogenic avian influenza H7N3 was confirmed at an egg farm near Meredith, Victoria. Importantly, this is not the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain causing poultry and wildlife mortalities overseas. On 24 May, a second Victorian farm, in Terang, was confirmed with HPAI H7N9, and on 3 June 2024 a third Victorian farm, at Lethbridge, with H7N3.

I am advised that people cannot become infected with HPAI by consuming cooked chicken meat or eggs and there have been no HPAI detections in South Australian poultry. Avian influenza is a highly infectious disease caused by influenza A viruses, which are viruses capable of infecting birds and mammals, including humans. Strains are described as of low pathogenicity (LPAI) or high pathogenicity (HPAI). HPAI infections can result in severe symptoms and up to 100 per cent mortality in domestic poultry.

Importantly, eggs and poultry products from the supermarket are safe to consume, provided they are handled and cooked according to standard food handling practices. Agriculture Victoria is responding to the outbreaks with the aim of eradicating the disease by depopulation. Controls are in place within restricted areas and broader control area buffer zones established around the infected farms, which have been quarantined. A housing requirement for all birds within the restricted areas and control areas has been issued, with movement permits required for all poultry premises within these areas.

Surveillance activities have been completed for premises linked to the Meredith farm, with negative results. The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) maintains ongoing communications with the key poultry industry representatives, and notification of poultry producers and veterinarians regarding the current Victorian situation and the importance of enhanced biosecurity and early reporting.

PIRSA also continues to undertake surveillance and enhance its preparedness activities. I am very pleased that the \$6.8 million in funding announced by our state government in December 2022 to enhance the preparedness for emergency animal disease outbreaks is assisting the department to support industry, government and the community to prepare for potential impacts to both domestic and wild bird populations.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:34): Supplementary: how often is this surveillance occurring in wild bird populations currently?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:34): I'm happy to take that question on notice and bring back a response.

FAR WEST COAST ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:34): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in regard to the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: On 1 May, the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation wrote an open letter to the Wirangu Association, which was also sent to several stakeholders, including the minister, with several statements, including an acknowledgement that 'Wirangu land extends wider than the above acknowledgement area,' with an included map. The letter also indicated state government involvement with the activities of the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation in this space. My questions to the minister are as follows:

1. Has the minister for Indigenous affairs, on behalf of the state government, been involved in this process, which potentially puts in place special arrangements for the Wirangu people at the expense of five other member groups of the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation?
2. Does the minister support this proposal, which seemingly is contrary to the Federal Court determination for native title for the Far West Coast Aboriginal peoples on 5 December 2013?
3. What communication has the minister had with the other five distinct cultural groups which make up the Far West Aboriginal group, apart from the Wirangu Association?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:36): I thank the honourable member for her question. I don't quite understand, and maybe the honourable member will explain by way of supplementary,

what she means by correspondence somehow impinging on native title rights. I am at a complete loss to understand that. I was cc'd in on a letter that, from my memory, was from the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation talking about Wirangu's connection to a certain part of the land that forms the basis of the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation's native title claim.

FAR WEST COAST ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:37): Supplementary: does the minister support their proposal?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:37): Again, I'm at a complete loss to understand what the proposal the honourable member is talking about is. From what I could glean—and I don't have a copy of the letter I was cc'd in on—it was not asking for any state government approval or endorsement for whatever protocols that Aboriginal communities are putting in place between themselves.

FAR WEST COAST ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:37): Further supplementary: the proposal that their statements acknowledge that the 'Wirangu land extends wider than the above acknowledgement area.'

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:37): Once again, I've got no idea what actual question the honourable member is trying to talk about in terms of disturbing any native title determination.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: It actually doesn't make much sense.

MYPOLONGA COMBINED SPORTS CLUB

The Hon. M. EL DANNAWI (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister update the chamber on the successful Thriving Regions—Enabling Infrastructure application for the Mypolonga sports club?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:38): I thank the honourable member for her question. I was delighted, on Tuesday 28 May—a bit over a week ago—to have the pleasure of meeting with Courtney Blacker, Joel Eckermann and Jason Stewart at the Mypolonga Combined Sports Club, along with Murray Bridge Mayor Wayne Thorley, to announce the successful state government Thriving Regions—Enabling Infrastructure funding towards the Mypolonga Combined Sports Club major complex facility.

This upgrade is important for the area, and we were announcing funding of almost \$520,000. The funding is a significant contribution to the project's overall cost of \$1.24 million, with the office of recreation and sport also providing a grant recently. The sports complex is a vital recreational and social hub that plays a significant role in the wellbeing and liveability of the community. It is currently host to more than six local sporting clubs and community groups and holds community events, emergency response, agriculture industry meetings and more.

The new upgrades will ensure the complex serves the needs of Mypolonga well into the future. The overall project will involve the addition of change rooms, unisex wet areas, upgraded lights for broader event availability and emergencies, an all-ages playground, court area extension for netball and tennis and a free recreation area.

The sports grounds are a vital community centre and provide an integrated approach for local clubs to grow liveability and regional wellbeing. They offer safe activities, events and recreation to thousands, strengthening the local communities. The Mypolonga sports club provides Mypolonga people with identity. It's where the community connect, celebrate, play, do business, develop and respond to emergencies.

The current facilities are dilapidated, small and vulnerable to weather and this project fixes the current problems at the club and provides benefits to the community through physical and mental wellbeing. It provides high-standard facilities for public recreation and first-time access for females, people with disability, culturally diverse people and cohorts of disadvantage.

Upgrades allow the club to fundraise through improved canteen facilities and events and relieve pressure on volunteers who have provided 10 years' worth of key infrastructure maintenance. They will also provide flood-proof, accessible or no-cost space for families, celebrations, community workshops and more.

The upgrades are set to start in the coming months as the group of local Mypolonga volunteers leading this project prepare for the town's biggest community infrastructure investment on record. Recent floods have of course had a devastating impact on many local Mypolonga families, businesses and industry. They are now well on the road to recovery and this positive opportunity for their community's much-loved recreation hub has given them all something to celebrate.

I will point out that Mypolonga is in the electorate of Hammond. Given the question from the opposition yesterday about announcements and the implication that they are all in Labor seats or Independent seats, it really does beg the question: is the Leader of the Opposition suggesting that Hammond is or soon will be a Labor seat or an Independent seat? What does she know about the member for Hammond?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Is the member for Hammond planning to become an Independent?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Or is it, indeed, that those opposite think that the member for Hammond is doing such a poor job that he is likely to lose his seat to an Independent at the next election? Either way, it's an interesting question, which I'm sure we can all ponder. But I am very pleased that we have made this significant announcement for the Mypolonga sports club.

FIRST NATIONS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (14:42): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs a question about the First Nations Voice to Parliament.

Leave granted.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: Much criticism has been levelled at the Voice to Parliament, including that 90 per cent of eligible voters failed to cast a ballot in the historic vote, with members elected with as few as six votes. About 30,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were eligible to vote but the Electoral Commission SA figures show less than 2,600 formal votes were received.

Concerns are now being raised about the independence of the Voice and how it will operate. Forty-six will fill the six Local Voices, with two presiding members from those six on the 12-member State Voice. Elected members will receive between \$3,000 and \$18,000, sitting fees of \$206 per meeting, travel, accommodation and meal allowances and \$1,000 each for a laptop. The advisory body will make representations to state parliament and talk with government ministers and agency heads. I am informed that 16 current serving public servants have been elected to the Voice. My questions to the minister are:

1. Can the minister provide the exact number of public servants elected to the Voice and provide advice on how they will be able to give independent guidance and advice without fear or favour, given the intrinsic conflicts of interest which arise from their employment?

2. Can the minister advise how these public servants will be able to be members of the Voice when the SA Public Sector Act states very clearly that public servants have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest?

3. Do you or the government have concerns about these potential breaches of the conflict provisions of the Public Sector Act, and have those concerns been raised?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:44): I thank the honourable member for his question, which is almost identical to a question the opposition asked me a few weeks ago. I am happy to restate the answer I gave a few weeks ago, and I will be happy to send the honourable member the *Hansard* of the answer I previously gave the opposition on an almost identical question.

I don't have the exact number, I think it is between 10 and 15—it might be 11 or 14 members of the 46, but it is in that order—who are members of the state public sector, which is not surprising. I am very pleased that the South Australian public sector is an employer of choice for so many Aboriginal people in this state. As I said when I answered this question a few weeks ago in this very chamber, there is a process for conflicts of interest.

The Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment regularly provides advice for people who are members of boards and committees who are public sector employees about managing any conflicts that could possibly come up, how to declare them and how to manage them. There are members of the South Australian public sector who are appointed to a whole array of boards and committees throughout South Australia where any possible conflicts, if a decision has anything that impinges on their employment, are well and truly managed. I am very pleased that the South Australian public sector is an employer of choice for so many Aboriginal people.

FIRST NATIONS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (14:46): Supplementary: has that advice been provided to those public servants who are on the Voice?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:46): I thank the honourable member for his question. I will double-check to see if I need to add anything further, but my understanding is that when the inaugural sessions were held for the 14 members of the Voice it included very specific outlines and papers about conflicts of interest, how to manage those, how to seek requests and how to navigate them.

FIRST NATIONS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (14:46): Supplementary: has the minister sought advice or has advice been sought from the Office for Public Integrity about potential conflicts?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:46): The Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment has provided advice, as I have said. If the honourable member has any specific concern, I will be happy to take it on board, but if he just wants to generally smear Aboriginal people with the idea that they can't manage conflicts, that is up to him.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: Point of order: there is no way that I was smearing Aboriginal people, and I ask the Attorney-General to withdraw that remark.

The PRESIDENT: You should withdraw that.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: Withdraw, sir.

PROCEEDS OF CRIME LEGISLATION

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (14:47): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney a question on proceeds of crime legislation.

Leave granted.

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO: Reports this week that, on the death of convicted murderer Peter Rex Dansie, state prosecutors are reportedly still pursuing his estate. This includes half of his family home, with prosecutors arguing that it was a proceed of crime because Dansie had killed his wife to take possession of it. I note that Judge Dart of the Supreme Court was surprised to learn that prosecutors were still pursuing the case against the Dansie estate. Judge Dart noted:

Now, you're left with the situation where Mrs Dansie's son has lost his mother in horrible circumstances and you're seeking to take his inheritance.

Further, he is quoted as saying:

Legally you may have the power to proceed, but now he's passed there's no prospect of him benefiting from his offence.

My questions to the Attorney are:

1. In light of the details provided, will the Attorney consider amendments or reform to ensure that a similar tragic situation would not occur in the end, that is, children of a murder victim having to contest state prosecutors for their inheritance when the perpetrator had died and therefore cannot benefit from the crime?

2. Currently, is there an opportunity for discretion in such cases so the state prosecutors do not pursue this?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:49): I will keep my comments quite general as there are specific proceedings on foot that have been reported quite widely in the media. I think it might be best that I take most of that on notice and bring back a considered answer. Regularly in proceedings the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions takes considerable latitude for discretion on when to pursue certain matters, but I am happy to take it on notice. If there are unintended outcomes from legislation that this parliament has passed in the past, we would always be happy to look at sensible reforms.

WYNNE PRIZE

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Will the minister inform the council about the 2024 Wynne Prize and this year's finalists?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:49): I thank the honourable member for his question in relation to the Wynne Prize for art. The Wynne Prize is Australia's oldest art prize, with the first award being awarded back in 1897. Awarded annually, the Wynne is awarded for the best landscape painting of Australian scenery or sculpture by an Australian artist. The competition is judged by the trustees of the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Notably, and for the first time, there are more works by Aboriginal artists than non-Aboriginal artists in this year's finalist pool, with 21 works by Aboriginal artists, which is particularly impressive considering there were 738 entries competing for the top prize. In 2023, the Wynne Prize was won by Zaachariaha Fielding, a first-time finalist from the APY lands, for the painting *Inma*, depicting the sounds and movements of his community in Mimili. Zaachariaha joins Sylvia Ken as another APY artist to be a winner of the Wynne Prize.

The APY lands have produced numerous exceptional artists who have dominated the Australian art scene and awards in recent years, and this year we see eight finalists out of the 41 are from the APY lands or working under APY arts collectively. Very strong congratulations to George Cooley from Umoona Art, Muna Kulyuru, Vincent Namatjira, Rene Sundown, Tiger Yaltangki, Frank Young and Maguku Purka, Robert Fielding, who joins a father and child duo with Zaachariaha Fielding, Naguku Ukariku, who have been nominated as the eight people who are finalists this year.

Although this is exceptionally impressive—eight out of 41—it is not the greatest representation from APY artists in any given year where, in 2014, 14 of the finalists for the Wynne Prize were from the APY lands. I understand the winner will be announced this Friday 7 June and will be displayed in exhibition with all the finalists until 8 September. I wish all the finalists from

South Australia the best of luck in the competition, and I know that we will continue to have many successes at national prizes from our Aboriginal artists.

REPRODUCTIVE LEAVE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (14:52): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Industrial Relations and the Public Sector on the topic of reproductive leave for the public sector.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: Reproductive leave is an emerging idea to balance workers' competing demands of work and care within workplace policy. Reproductive leave policies create pathways for workers to take paid time off for menstruation, menopause, fertility treatments, hysterectomies, vasectomies, miscarriages, terminations and gender affirmation.

Women are disproportionately affected by extra caring responsibilities and reproductive health conditions and processes such as endometriosis, PCOS, menstruation and menopause. Research shows that inadequate recognition and support for these reproductive health disparities has been found to contribute to inequality and gender disadvantage at work, with some women reporting reduced wellbeing, reduced economic participation and early withdrawal from the labour market.

Many unions have called for reproductive health policies to be included in enterprise agreements and legislation. In April 2024, the CPSU achieved an in-principle agreement with the Victorian government to grant public sector workers five days of paid reproductive leave. The Queensland government, in May 2024, announced that they will be providing public servants with 10 days of paid reproductive leave. Indeed, it's a hot topic right here in Adelaide at the moment at the ACTU National Congress. My questions to the minister are:

1. Does the minister see the benefits of reproductive leave policies in achieving greater gender equality and work-life balance?
2. Will the minister follow the steps of his Victorian and Queensland counterparts and consider options for implementing reproductive leave for the public sector workers of our state?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:54): I thank the honourable member for her questions. Certainly, I can see the arguments she has put forward and the merits in those arguments. There are a number of public sector enterprise agreements that are currently being negotiated, some this year and some next year, and certainly we will be absolutely happy to consider suggestions like this being put forward as part of that bargaining.

ELECTION COMMITMENTS

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (14:54): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Attorney-General regarding campaign promises.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON: Leading up to the March 2022 state election, the then Labor opposition made a campaign promise to create a public sex offender register if they won the election. The then Labor opposition promised to also create a missing offenders' website, a local search program and a parental disclosure scheme. Two years on, this has not yet been implemented. On 19 October 2023, in response to a supplementary question from the Hon. Dennis Hood in relation to the establishment of a public sex offender register, he was asked if it was reasonable that we would expect to see a bill this year. The minister said:

...I don't think that would be an unreasonable expectation given that we are well developed in the consultation process, and particularly with Western Australia.

The minister also said:

Yes, I would suspect that that would be the case given I am aware that it is well developed in terms of consultations.

My questions for the minister are:

1. Will the government be delivering these election commitments before the upcoming election and, if so, when?
2. Where is the government up to in preparing to deliver these commitments?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:56): I thank the honourable member for her questions. Yes, it is my expectation that the public sex offender register, which was one of our election commitments, will be developed before the next election. I will check and, if there is anything further to add, I am happy to bring back further information. From the last update I had, there were discussions with SAPOL about how this would actually be implemented, how it would work in practice, but if there is anything further, I am very happy to go away and add that if there is any further information.

ELECTION COMMITMENTS

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (14:56): Supplementary: does the Attorney-General have a timeline for when the parliament can expect to see a bill before it?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:57): I thank the honourable member for her question. Certainly, there are intricacies in implementing these and, as the honourable member outlined, there are a number of different elements to it, including offenders who have essentially absconded or can't be found. I certainly would expect that to be done in this term of parliament.

ELECTION COMMITMENTS

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (14:57): Supplementary: in the lead-up to the 2022 state election, did the then Labor opposition consult with SAPOL as to any concerns they may have had as to practical application?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:57): It is not the usual practice for oppositions to consult with government agencies or departments.

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. T.T. NGO (14:57): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister tell the council about the Outbound Knowledge Exchange bursary program and the Best of Wine Tourism Awards facilitated through the Great Wine Capitals Global Network?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:58): I thank the honourable member for his question. I am pleased to update this place about the outcome of the 2023 Outbound Knowledge Exchange bursary program and the announcement of the 2025 Best of Wine Tourism Awards.

As members in this place would be aware, we are fortunate to be part of the Great Wine Capitals Global Network, through which the best wine regions in the world share skills and knowledge and celebrate the best of wine and tourism. Membership of the network provides us with global recognition of our outstanding wine industry across the areas of production, research, education and wine tourism. Furthermore, being a part of this program benchmarks us against 11 other renowned wine regions, such as Bordeaux and Napa Valley.

Last week, the Outbound Knowledge Exchange event was held and attended by the eight 2023 bursary recipients, industry representatives and the Adelaide Great Wine Capitals steering committee, which includes representatives from PIRSA, the South Australian Tourism Commission, the South Australian Wine Industry Association and the University of Adelaide. At this event, the 2023 Outbound Knowledge Exchange bursary program recipients presented their findings, and applications opened for the 2025 Best of Wine Tourism Awards and the 2024 Outbound Knowledge Exchange bursary program.

The Outbound Knowledge Exchange event is an important initiative run by the steering committee which provides \$6,000 to wine professionals, researchers and academics to travel to other Great Wine Capitals to share their knowledge and bring back learnings to support South Australia's fantastic wine industry. The South Australian Labor government, through the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, is proud to lead the local chapter steering committee that is responsible for delivering these kinds of excellent developmental initiatives. This is a wonderful occasion for learning and industry connection, where the eight recipients of the 2023 bursary program presented their findings and thoughtful consideration for industry in service of the South Australian wine industry.

I again congratulate each of the bursary recipients on not only being part of the program but for providing excellent insight into how the South Australian industry can adopt their learnings to maximise the benefit to the state. Applications for the next round of the Outbound Knowledge Exchange bursary program will open on 1 July and I encourage those who are interested in this excellent international learning experience to apply.

The Best of Wine Tourism Awards is another cornerstone program of the Great Wine Capitals Global Network, honouring innovation, sustainability and quality in wine tourism. This award is categorised into accommodation, architecture and landscape, art and culture, culinary experiences, innovative wine tourism experiences, wine tourism services and sustainable wine tourism practices. Each award given recognises an offering or service that is unique and outstanding with a positive impact on, and involvement in, local wine tourism.

We are all, I hope, aware of the exceptional quality of South Australian wine and wine tourism, and these awards allow for this quality to continue to be recognised on a global stage. The Best of Wine Tourism Awards gives the South Australian wine industry a chance to recognise all the great things our industry achieves and will continue to achieve. Applications for this award will close on 12 July. For more information, or to nominate for the 2025 Best of Wine Tourism Awards, interested people can go to www.adelaidegreatwinecapital.com.au.

GUARDIANSHIP ORDERS

The Hon. S.L. GAME (15:01): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, representing the Minister for Child Protection, regarding state guardianship.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.L. GAME: I raise concerns about state guardianship because the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) and the Public Trustee are currently largely unaccountable for their decisions. This lack of accountability allows the wishes of a protected person and their family to be ignored. It also permits excessive charging, enrichment and conflict of interest to thrive.

Once the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT) appoints the Public Advocate as a guardian of last resort, the OPA guardian and the Public Trustee have control over where a protected person lives, who they see, their income and their assets. The problem with this arrangement is that the statutory framework does not envisage a subsequent review of whether the decisions made by the OPA as guardian or the Public Trustee were the right decisions or avoided conflict of interest.

The Guardianship and Administration Act 1993 needs to be reviewed to ensure decisions made by the OPA or the Public Trustee are the right decisions. My question to the minister is: will the minister undertake a public review of the Guardianship and Administration Act 1993 and the decision-making of the OPA and Public Trustee?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:03): I am happy to answer those questions. SACAT, the Office of the Public Advocate and the Public Trustee come under the Attorney-General's portfolio, so I am happy to answer the honourable member's questions.

For most of the decisions made in terms of appointment of either a guardian or sometimes the Public Advocate, or the administration of an estate involving the Public Trustee, there are hearings where there is an opportunity for interested parties, which often involves family members,

to make submissions and be part of those hearings. Generally, the Public Trustee or Public Advocate are administrators or guardians of last resort where there isn't someone else who can do it or—as often, sadly, happens—where those who might be able to do it form part of the concern about why sometimes an application has been made to SACAT for such an appointment.

There are mechanisms for reviews and appeals of decisions made and certainly it's correspondence that I receive regularly from members of parliament on behalf of constituents who have family members who are subject to SACAT orders with the Public Advocate or Public Trustee, but also from members of the public. So there are significant review and appeal mechanisms already in the system, but we are always happy to look at if there are ways to make changes that make the operation of these things more efficient or more effective.

Sadly, it's often very difficult and emotional decisions that are made. It is a very big step for a tribunal like SACAT to step in and, because of the circumstances in someone's life or the things that are affecting someone, make a decision that someone else, whether that's a family member or another person or, indeed, of last resort, the Public Advocate or Public Trustee, should be making decisions about how someone's finances are spent or lifestyle decisions.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (15:05): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Attorney-General regarding bail laws for perpetrators of domestic violence.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: It has recently been reported that the New South Wales government is proposing to overhaul bail laws in their state. It's quite a broad discussion, but one of the key measures will be to keep domestic violence offenders who are considered a high risk to the community imprisoned. Those charged with other serious offences, including rape, for example, will also be targeted in these proposed amendments which have not yet passed their parliament but are being actively considered, I understand. My questions to the Attorney-General are:

1. Is the Attorney considering a similar overhaul of South Australia's bail laws?
2. If so, when might the South Australian public expect to see a draft of such laws?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:06): I thank the honourable member for his question. Certainly, we do keep up, with interest, with developments in other jurisdictions. I know that the New South Wales changes that have been announced followed changes that we made here in South Australia—that this parliament has made.

We, very recently in this chamber, made changes to ensure that for people who breach domestic violence intervention orders with threats or acts of violence there is a presumption against bail. I know that sparked interest from a number of other jurisdictions around Australia about what we are doing here, so I was very pleased to be able to inform some of my colleagues in other jurisdictions around Australia about the significant steps we have taken in South Australia. We are always keen to look at developments in other states to see if they have an application here.

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

The Hon. J.E. HANSON (15:07): My question is to the Attorney-General. Will the minister inform the council about this year's Are You Safe at Home? Day?

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 in this area. Every year, 10 May marks Are You Safe at Home? Day as an opportunity for people to ask others whether they are safe in their own homes in the context of encouraging people to start some of those uncomfortable but critical conversations about family and domestic violence. These difficult conversations could be with anyone in your life whose safety you are concerned about. While it's often very difficult to ask questions, the Are You Safe at Home? campaign offers some helpful resources to assist people in starting these potentially life-saving conversations.

The first step is to ask questions, which could be as simple as asking, in a safe and private environment, 'Are things okay at home? Are things okay in your relationship?' The next step that is suggested is to listen without interruption or judgement, and if the person doesn't want to talk about it, the advice is to respect that choice but let them know you are there if they ever want to talk about it.

If someone expresses they don't feel safe at home, you can remind people that abuse is never their fault and offer to help connect them with a support service such as 1800 RESPECT or with South Australia Police. These helpful conversation guide resources are available on the Are You Safe at Home? website, as well as suggestions for how to get involved with Are You Safe at Home? Day. Suggestions for getting involved include raising awareness through workplaces with information posters and undertaking online learning modules, which equips people with the tools to recognise and respond to family and domestic violence in the workplace and beyond.

For this year's Are You Safe at Home? Day, the campaign facilitated an online webinar which was presented in partnership with Domestic Violence New South Wales, the Centre for Women's Safety and Wellbeing, the Northern Territory Council of Social Service and the Embolden alliance.

The webinar conversations were led by Safe and Equal's Emma Morgan, the strategic projects and engagement manager; and Rebecca Carro, the lived experience program officer. What they presented explored what family violence is, who it impacts, what the signs are and how to have those safe and respectful conversations. The recording of this year's webinar is available for watching on the Are You Safe at Home? website.

Ending family and domestic violence is everyone's business, but each of us in this place, especially men, have a crucial role to play. I am proud that this government is committed to taking steps to ending family and domestic violence and continues to deliver on legislative reforms, as well as funding services to protect those experiencing family and domestic violence.

REGIONAL BANK CLOSURES

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:10): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question without notice to the Minister for Regional Development on the topic of regional banks.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Last week, the federal inquiry into the impact of bank closures in regional communities delivered its final report. The report contained eight recommendations, including a feasibility study into publicly owned banks and adding a supplement to the federal major bank levy to fund a program to support community bank branches in regional areas.

In 2017, the then Labor government proposed a state-based major bank levy, which at the time would have raised \$370 million of revenue over four years. Bank closures have impacted a number of regional towns in South Australia and also suburban areas such as Golden Grove, with Rhiannon Pearce MP organising a petition to reverse the closure of that local branch.

My question to the Minister for Regional Development therefore is: is the minister advocating for the federal government to implement the recommendations of the Senate inquiry into bank closures in regional Australia, and has the minister or her department considered which, if any, of the recommendations could be implemented at a local state level?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:11): I thank the honourable member for his question. He is correct that in May 2024, the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport references committee delivered its report on an inquiry into bank closures in regional Australia. I am advised the inquiry received 609 public submissions, and a total of 13 public hearings were held across a number of regional centres, including in Kingston South-East, that one being on 21 February.

The report provided a list of eight recommendations made by the committee. A chapter was included on possible solutions to the regional banking crisis, listing the following, which have been extracted from the report: alternatives to bank branches, such as better remote service options; co-location of banks; community hubs; local council banks; mobile banking; more community and customer owned banks; increasing the role of bank at post; a national public bank; options for

regulatory reforms, such as imposing a universal service obligation on banks; increasing regulation and oversight in relation to branch closures; and options to address issues around loyalty of bank customers.

In terms of the recommendations, we are expecting, as I am sure many are, some further communication from the federal government in terms of their intentions. Members may recall that the state government made a submission to the inquiry. I think we were alone in that in the chamber. I do not think the asker of the question, nor the opposition, made a submission, but I guess that is up to them of whether they just want to come in here and make statements or whether they actually want to take some action. However, our submission emphasised the scale of the 71 per cent reduction in South Australian bank branches from a peak of 228 in 1975 to only 67 in 2021, and the impact this reduction has had on services available to regional banking customers. Those impacts include:

- reduced customer access to detailed face-to-face advice on banking products which suit their particular circumstances. That, of course, includes businesses operating in agriculture, fishing and forestry, among others;
- increased inconvenience and security risks in customers transporting large sums of cash and, in some cases, several hundred kilometres to the nearest deposit-taking institution;
- reduced financial inclusion of remote First Nations people, as well as older people, people with cognitive impairment, and those with lower levels of English language or financial literacy;
- reduced local economic activity, which results from banks reducing local sponsorships; and
- bank employees leaving regional towns.

Our government submission concluded that, while decisions around bank branch closures are commercial decisions taken by the banks, the impact of these decisions could be alleviated in a number of ways. Our government submission also recommended that the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority be asked to investigate ways in which more tailored information about banking products and services could be provided to people in regions, including through the use, for example, of virtual meetings with bank staff, which could be facilitated by using technology hosted in Australia Post offices or other government offices located in regional towns.

We look forward to seeing what the federal government's plan is in terms of implementation of recommendations that are within their scope, and that will inform any future actions that we might be able to take.

REGIONAL BANK CLOSURES

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:15): Supplementary: has the minister conducted any preliminary work on recommendations that could be implemented at a state level, or is she simply passing the buck?

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. However, to start looking at what the state could potentially do when we don't yet know what the federal government is doing would seem to be unwise.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

REGIONAL BANK CLOSURES

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:16): Supplementary: how many submissions have been made to the minister in her portfolio that she hasn't acted on?

The PRESIDENT: You can answer it, but I would think it was a bit naughty.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:16): I don't think it arises from the original answer, but I am happy to answer. Submissions that come to me are always considered appropriately, and where action is appropriate action is taken.

CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (15:16): I seek leave to make a brief explanation prior to addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on the Cross Border Commissioner.

Leave granted.

The Hon. B.R. HOOD: On 2 May, I asked a question of the minister regarding which regional newspapers have run advertisements for the Cross Border Commissioner role to date. The minister took that question on notice and I received an answer to that today, being:

The Premier has advised: Printed advertising for the Cross Border Commissioner role was placed in regional newspaper [sic] *The Border Watch*.

My question to the minister is: can she advise in what edition and on what date that advert appeared in *The Border Watch*?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:17): I thank the honourable member for his question, but I suggest he looks in the newspaper and finds out for himself. It's on the public record. Do some work!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

WAKEFIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (15:17): My question—

The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Attorney!

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN: —is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! I would like to hear the question.

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN: My question is: will the minister please inform the chamber of the importance of the recent funding provided to the Wakefield Regional Council?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:18): I thank the honourable member for his question. Through the state government's Enabling Infrastructure Program, the Wakefield Regional Council will receive a grant of almost \$1 million towards its project 'Celebrating Port Wakefield's Cultural Connection'. I am thrilled to be able to provide this funding to a town that is more than just a highway thoroughfare.

The Malinauskas Labor government is dedicated and committed to supporting the needs of our regional communities. As Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I thoroughly enjoy visiting and engaging with people throughout our regions. I recently had the pleasure of visiting Port Wakefield to announce the \$1 million funding and was excitedly joined by the member for Narungga, Fraser Ellis MP; the Mayor of the Wakefield Regional Council, Rodney Reid; councillors; members of the Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation; and local members of the community, including business owners and commercial fishermen.

The representation of such a large group of individuals coming together signifies the impact and importance this funding will have on the town, and is a testament that our regions matter and that by working together we can make them great.

Stage 2 of the project will build on the established Indigenous art trail, activate the tidal pool and upgrade public facilities to improve accessibility. There are also plans to create a new town centre, provide an inclusive adventure play space and turn a vacant public building into a usable business or community space.

The improved infrastructure will help attract new residents, unlock the growth potential of local industries and support tourist business development. The almost \$1 million grant is a significant contribution to the project's overall cost of \$3.4 million. The project is expected to generate more than 40 full-time equivalent positions, including six Indigenous positions, during the construction phase and six FTEs are estimated to continue beyond the project period.

This grant will assist the Wakefield Regional Council to improve infrastructure, which will support both an increase in visitor numbers and the imminent growth in the area. I am advised that it is expected that stage 2 will be complete within the next 18 months.

The township has many attributes and history, and this project will enable future generations to continue celebrating it for many years to come and instil renewed civic pride across the region. The town, I am advised, has recently seen something of a seismic change, with the national highway duplication and overpass project completed for increased safety and significant traffic flow improvements. I encourage everyone to visit this progressive coastal town and enjoy what it has to offer, including, of course, the delicious kitchener buns from the ever popular Kiplings Bakery.

I am delighted that this is yet another successful funding application to the enabling infrastructure fund, which is a stream of the Thriving Regions Fund. I alluded to it briefly yesterday, but just to expand a little bit more on the rationale behind the enabling infrastructure fund: it is around looking at those sorts of projects that can bring together multiple benefits and multiple streams and enable the benefits to be spread across an entire region.

Some of the things that we have already announced include worker accommodation, the project that I mentioned earlier today in terms of the Mypolonga sports centre, and also several projects in the South-East, one at Keith, in terms of the industrial estate there, and one at Naracoorte, which will enable child care. They are just some of the projects, but it is really important—

Honourable members: Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five—

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —that the importance of child care in particular is recognised and taken seriously—

Honourable members: —four, three, two, one.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —which I would have hoped those opposite would do, but clearly they don't take things such as child care in the regions seriously. They don't think it's important. They think it's an opportunity just to have another little dig.

Matters of Interest

NUCLEAR ENERGY

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (15:22): I rise to address a topic that is increasingly gaining national attention and which forms part of both state and federal Liberal Party policy agendas, which is nuclear energy generation.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. B.R. HOOD: I know, Rob! The CSIRO only recently released their GenCost 2023-24 annual report, which included large-scale nuclear power generation in their analysis for the first time. While the headline figure suggests renewables are the lowest cost new-build technology, when you take the long-term view, is not so clear-cut.

I certainly do not profess to be an energy expert, but a rudimentary point-in-time analysis of the figures is worth highlighting. Using GenCost's data and assumptions, Australia could embark upon a continuous building program to construct 10 nuclear power plants at an estimated cost of

\$86½ billion dollars. For renewable energy generation they estimate annual costs could range from almost \$4 billion to over \$8 billion.

Even taking the CSIRO's extremely conservative and unrealistic 30-year life span of a nuclear power plant, the total cost of renewables over the same period ranges between \$116 billion and \$280 billion. At the lowest end of this range it means that nuclear power could in fact be generated at just 75 per cent of the cost of renewables. Again, I am no physics or energy expert, but surely if climate change and energy minister Chris Bowen was so certain that his renewables agenda is the only true path to net zero, why would the federal government not lift the prohibition on nuclear energy in Australia?

Let's take a quick look at Minister Bowen's renewable plan as he outlined in October 2022. To meet the government's 82 per cent clean energy target by the end of this decade it would require a staggering 22,000 solar panels to be installed every single day (62 million in total), a seven-megawatt wind turbine to be commissioned every 18 hours, and by 2050 we will need more than 10,000 kilometres of new transmission lines, which will run right through the backyards of our rural and regional communities.

It is no surprise to learn that these targets are not on track to be met, with renewable projects moving at a snail's pace and the transmission line project years behind the initial timetable. Consultancy firm Nexa Advisory released their analysis only yesterday with a glaring title that says, 'We Plan and Then Don't Build'. The very first sentence of its executive summary provides a concise snapshot, and it is worth quoting:

The slow pace of Australia's clean energy transition means that not only will Australia fail to meet its climate targets, but there is a significant threat to power system reliability and security, and increased costs for consumers both large and small.

Despite the Albanese government spending \$20 billion on its Rewiring the Nation Fund, which provides cheap finance to accelerate works, the Nexa Advisory report finds that transmission projects are behind by an average of three years across the country.

What has happened to electricity prices over this time? That is a good question. Rather than being \$275 lower, as promised by Anthony Albanese, annual electricity bills are, in fact, almost \$800 higher for a typical household. Is it any wonder then that Australians are becoming increasingly sceptical of the tired old line that renewables are the cheapest source of energy?

The Lowy Institute released their flagship annual poll just two days ago, where it found that 61 per cent of Australians support introducing nuclear power generation in Australia. This is a complete turnaround from 2011, when the Lowy Institute reported that 62 per cent of Australians opposed nuclear. As our country rushes to build renewables under the guise of delivering cheaper energy bills, the Lowy poll also found a big jump in the percentage of those prioritising cheaper energy bills over reducing carbon emissions.

The Liberal Party is calling for a non-ideological open-minded investigation into nuclear generation in South Australia and across the nation. While we currently have an open-minded Premier who has made some of the right noises in this regard, we are hampered by a highly ideological federal government hell-bent on the renewables zeitgeist. Given that South Australia pays almost the highest electricity prices in the world, a new approach is needed. I will end in an unusual way by quoting Premier Malinauskas, where he said:

For me, all of the ideological opposition, the NIMBY arguments against it, I think they're ill-informed. I don't think that's doing the country much of a service.

Hear, hear!

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:27): I rise to speak about a group of people in the Vietnamese community who took it upon themselves to fundraise \$100,000 for the Women's and Children's Hospital (WCH) Foundation.

The Children's Hospital was established to address the high premature death rates among impoverished children in 1878. In 1902, the Women's Hospital, initially known as the Queen Victoria

Hospital, opened in Rose Park. Then in 1989, the Women's and Children's Hospital was formed from the amalgamation of the two hospitals.

The role of the WCH Foundation is to improve the health and wellbeing of women, children and families under the care of the Women's and Children's Health Network. The foundation relies on the generosity of the community and is constantly challenged by prioritising where to invest donated funds. Thanks to the support of the community, in the last financial year, the WCH Foundation contributed more than \$2.5 million to supporting the hospital community in areas such as medical equipment, family support programs for vulnerable babies and a purpose-built holiday home for families with children with complex medical needs.

On Saturday 6 April 2024, I attended a fundraising dinner. As I mentioned, this was hosted by members of the South Australian Vietnamese community and a friend of mine, Phuong Nguyen, who runs a restaurant on Hanson Road. Last year, Phuong and her husband were ecstatic about the safe birth of their daughter, Thien-An Ngo, through IVF. Phuong had health issues when she was due to give birth to Thien-An, and she told me that the care and support provided at the WCH was amazing and professional. Her five other children were all born at the WCH and in each of her pregnancies she was well looked after by doctors, nurses and midwives. Phuong and her husband were passionate about organising a fundraiser to acknowledge and repay the generosity of the staff at the hospital.

They liaised with friends and small business owners in the Vietnamese community and organised a dinner to raise funds for the WCH. The fundraiser was also a way to say thank you to Australia and its people for their generosity and kindness in settling Vietnamese people for 50 years. The cheque presentation was attended by Minister for Health and Wellbeing the Hon. Chris Picton MP and foundation chair Mr Michael Luchich, CEO Ms Jane Scotcher, foundation members, doctors, hospital staff and members of the South Australian Vietnamese community.

The foundation acknowledged Phuong's and the Vietnamese community's incredible work and confirmed that the money raised will be used to support areas of need, such as perineal care for birthing mums, diagnosis and treatment of vision loss in babies, and for mums and babies the nurturing of development and maternal attachment for two vulnerable groups of babies—babies needing neurodevelopmental physiotherapy and babies being cared for through the inpatient service at Helen Mayo House for mothers who have mental health problems in the postnatal period.

I was informed by the foundation that perineal trauma during childbirth occurs at a higher incidence within the Asian community, so this project will support all Asian women birthing at the WCH over the next 18 to 24 months through the development of culturally sensitive resources, cultural training for doctors and bundles of care items to support at-home care and healing after birth. To conclude, I would like to quote Phuong's words of thanks:

My family and I are blessed with a beautiful daughter whom we have named Thien-An, meaning 'a gift from God'. Thank you for your outstanding dedication and care. Your compassion and kindness have made a real difference in my recovery.

GENDER IDEOLOGY

The Hon. S.L. GAME (15:32): I rise to speak today about gender ideology—the doctrine that preaches the belief that children can be born in the wrong body. I am on the record in this place as saying that I support the view that there are only two sexes, male and female. I have spoken publicly about the danger of the concept of gender fluidity, and I oppose it being taught in schools.

I am deeply concerned about the one-size-fits-all approach to gender affirmation therapy, and the lives it has irreversibly ruined. I believe that children and adults who are diagnosed with gender dysphoria have a medical condition that requires ongoing professional support, evidence-based treatment and the care that they and their families deserve. We need an inquiry into the gender curriculum being taught in schools, and an inquiry into the care of young people with gender dysphoria in South Australia.

Maintaining the family unit and ensuring the welfare of children is necessary for the wellbeing of society. Biological sex is a fundamental human identity. There is good reason why it is long established. Any attempt to undermine this by redefining gender can only be harmful. Gender-fluid

ideology is causing untold harm, particularly to children and teenagers. It is condemning children to lifelong medical interventions, plastic surgery and hormone dependence. Irreparable damage is being inflicted on a generation of confused children wrongly diagnosed as transgender. These misdiagnosed children are not discussed by proponents of gender ideology, but that needs to change.

Affirmation therapy for gender dysphoric children places them on a pathway of lifelong medicalisation. This includes the use of puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones and irreversible body-harming surgery. Countries, including the US, the UK, France, Denmark, Finland and Sweden, are reviewing, re-evaluating and even banning affirmation treatment for gender dysphoria in children and adolescents. A Compass poll conducted in October 2023 on the question of gender affirmation mandates produced strong evidence of an increasing anti-woke sentiment in Australian society:

- 74 per cent of Australians oppose the use of irreversible puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones or body-altering surgeries on children under the age of 18;
- 78 per cent of Australians oppose primary school children being taught that they can change their sex and gender through social transitioning, puberty blockers, hormone treatment and surgery;
- 64 per cent of Australians oppose primary school children between the ages of five and 10 being taught about opposite sex and same-sex practices in the classroom as part of the curriculum;
- 74 per cent of Australians oppose boys who identify as girls being allowed to access girls' change rooms and sports teams and vice versa; and
- 77 per cent of Australians do not believe that teachers should be disciplined or lose their registration if they fail to use the preferred pronouns of a child identifying as a gender other than their biological sex.

Until recently, it has been generally accepted that gender is only a social construct while sex is a biological reality. Now we are told that gender identity is real while biological sex is now the social construct. If medical science is to recognise that gender identity determines sex in humans, how will the use of medicinal agents that have different effects on males and females be determined? Should the medical industry regulate that the proper dosage of medicine depends on the patient's gender identity?

Why are we being told to accept that feelings of gender dysphoria define reality? What is wrong with receiving help in coming to identify with and accept one's bodily self? Gender ideology dictates expressive individualism where people are free to do whatever they want and to find the truth however they see it. If gender identity is intrinsic, how can it be fluid? How can our reality be determined by our feelings when it comes to our sex, but on little else? I choose not to give in to extreme demands for society to accept subjective reality claims. While these claims are manifestly false, it will take the silent majority to raise their collective voice to prevent the spread of these harmful woke ideas.

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:37): I rise to express outrage at the campaign being waged by the Hon. Sarah Game and others to censor the content of our state Art Gallery. I must say that it is hypocritical to see this crusade to cancel artwork being led by the One Nation party, a political party that has long opposed so-called cancel culture. Indeed, the leader of One Nation, Senator Pauline Hanson, has claimed that cancel culture is killing debate and freedom of speech in this country.

The One Nation party certainly has a bizarre world view. They believe it is okay to promote transphobia and racism, and to do so with impunity. They argue that those offensive views should not be censored, but apparently exposure to provocative art is all a bit too much, that is a bridge too far. It is a complete nonsense.

The two sculptures that have been singled out by the Hon. Ms Game, Mark Quinn's *Buck with Cigar*, which is a sculpture of a transgender activist, Buck Angel, and Patricia Piccinini's *Big Mother*, I understand have been on display in the Art Gallery since 2010 and 2011. The

Hon. Ms Game claims that the artworks represent sexualised imagery; however, they are not sexualised simply because they depict the body. Indeed, celebrating the body in all of its shapes and sizes has been a feature of art for generations. It is not for politicians to determine which depictions of the body are considered art and worthy of inclusion in our public access Art Gallery.

I note that the Art Gallery of South Australia rebuts Ms Game's assertions that these works are unsuitable for children. A spokesperson told the *Adelaide Advertiser*:

We prepare our visitors including school groups and encourage pre-visits from teachers and educators..

Art at AGSA is curated to spark conversation and debate, and sometimes may be controversial. It is the role of artists and galleries...to encourage viewers to see the world, culture, and politics from different perspectives.

One of Ms Game's concerns seems to be the proximity of one of the artworks to a painting of the baby Jesus and the Virgin Mary. Presumably, the Hon. Ms Game does not think it is confronting for children to be exposed to artwork depicting the crucifixion of Christ, artwork that is commonplace in many galleries around the world.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit Italy and see some amazing artwork firsthand. My favourite was the *Statue of David*. Seventeen feet tall, carved out of marble, it is a remarkable sight. Made back in 1504, it is considered one of the most famous artworks in the world. I do hate to offend the sensibilities of the One Nation Party, but the statue is of a naked man, shock horror. *David*, of course, has not been immune to controversy. There was a time when a fig leaf was used to protect his modesty.

I had thought that those days of censorship were long gone, but sadly I was mistaken. Last year, the principal of Tallahassee Classical School in Florida's state capital was forced to resign after parents complained about a lesson that included a photo of *David* and the work was described by some as pornographic. As the Mayor of Florence, Dario Nardella, observed on Twitter, 'Mistaking art for pornography is simply ridiculous.'

Thankfully, the Hon. Ms Game's approach has not infiltrated Roman Florence, where there are still vast numbers of naked statues in public places. Perhaps the Hon. Ms Game believes these statues should be covered up or that children should be blindfolded or told to avert their eyes as they walk through these classical cities, or is art just considered adult only when it depicts a transgender body?

It is a real shame to see this kind of divisive politics being imported into Australia. This is the latest terrain in the culture wars of the far right. Recently in New South Wales, there was a ban imposed by Cumberland City Council on books talking about same-sex parenting on the basis that this is somehow disturbing for children. Thankfully, that insanity was overturned, but I do fear what we are seeing here is a move towards censoring our public spaces, such as our libraries and our galleries. Dictating what people can read and the artwork they can consume is very dangerous in our democracy.

There is a push here by the far right to frame diversity, whether that diversity be reflected through art or literature, as being dangerous and threatening, even corrupting for children. I know the government are fond of dealing with One Nation, but I urge them to resist this temptation. They must not follow the far right down this rabbit hole. South Australia has a long tradition of being freethinking, let's keep it that way. As Alanis Morissette once said, 'censorship is about fear. It's just fear being projected onto art.' But the last word must go to Virginia Woolf, who wrote, 'Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.'

Time expired.

CHILDREN IN STATE CARE

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (15:42): We continue to see much talk but little action from this bread and circuses government. One in three children have had contact with the child protection system before they turn 18. It has been reported that in South Australia it is predicted that, without change by 2031, there will be as many as 140 of every thousand Aboriginal children in state care. As of 30 April 2024, there were 4,853 children and young people in care. The figure from 31 March

was 4,883 and was coined as being highly likely that this is highest number of children and young people in care by the chief executive, Jackie Bray. No matter what way you cut it, this figure is unacceptably high.

At a recent Budget and Finance Committee meeting, we heard that, in comparing South Australia with the number of children in the child protection system per capita to other Australian jurisdictions, we are the second highest figure for all jurisdictions. We have seen review after review under this government, but while we continue to wait for action from these reviews, vulnerable South Australians are stuck with the status quo.

As lovely as a review is, and we do welcome the opportunity to identify ways in which the child protection system can be improved, they are merely a tick-box exercise if they do not ultimately lead to tangible outcomes, the perfect example being the review of the Children and Young People (Safety) Act. We sit eagerly and await any draft legislation from the review of the Children and Young People (Safety) Act. The final report for this review of the act was provided to the minister in February 2023. Acting President, you heard that right: 2023. The minister has been sitting on this report for over a year.

The parliament will soon break for the winter break, meaning that this place will not see any bill to address these issues until the end of August or the start of September at the earliest. That leaves only seven sitting weeks, if you do not include the optional sitting week, for the minister to make these changes, if she gets her skates on. If she does not, vulnerable South Australian children and the child protection community more broadly will be left with coal under the Christmas tree from Minister Hildyard and told to wait until next year.

Every day we wait is another day that vulnerable children and families in the child protection system are at risk of facing the same preventable heartbreaking tragedy that we have seen time and time again. Children are the most vulnerable in our community and they need our protection. They rely on the government to be able to make the tough calls and to get on with the job.

The opposition has been calling on the Premier to dedicate a standalone child protection minister: a minister who would be able to give this portfolio the time and attention that it needs. Instead, we see a part-time child protection minister who is juggling her time with LIV Golf, Gather Round, Adelaide 500—the list goes on with this bread and circuses government.

The Hon. B.R. Hood: Horse races.

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON: Yes, horse racing. We all know this government loves sport and they have had a real focus on it since 2022, but the reality is that the minister who is charged with this very busy sporting schedule is, in fact, the child protection minister.

Instead of taking the opportunity at the recent cabinet reshuffle to ensure there is a standalone child protection minister, the Premier decided to appoint an Assistant Minister for Junior Sport Participation, giving Minister Hildyard more support in her sports portfolio. That tells you all you need to know about this government's priorities. There is a child protection crisis, and what does the Premier do? He throws more at sport. The Premier, no doubt, has members of his caucus languishing on the backbench hoping for a call-up who would have been happy to pick up the slack for the child protection minister. I think the Hon. Russell Wortley would have happily picked up the phone.

As we await tomorrow's budget, I for one hope that this government gives the focus needed to the child protection system, but make no mistake, throwing money at child protection will create no outcomes on its own. It is time that we have a dedicated child protection minister, someone whose sole focus is the increased safety of vulnerable South Australian children.

WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (15:47): On 28 April, the United Nations has set aside a day for a cause that is very close to my heart, World Day for Safety and Health at Work. This cause—which should be a given in any workplace but is, sadly, not—is important to all genuine Labor people and I sincerely hope that it is also important to everyone on the other side of the chamber.

Health and safety at work should be the very least that every employer, whether in private enterprise or government, should offer their workers. I am proud to say that Labor, both state and

federal, have done their part to improve work safety across the nation. The Gillard federal government implemented national work health and safety laws in 2012. The following year, Jay Weatherill's South Australian Labor government brought in work health and safety state laws.

I had the privilege of being the minister who introduced this legislation into parliament. It met with significant opposition from Rob Lucas on behalf of the Liberal Party, and also a well-funded campaign by the Housing Industry Association. Obviously, the Housing Industry Association had problems with laws that had restrictions on heights, where a builder or a scaffolder had to put up scaffolding to ensure that workers were safe working at heights. They also had problems with 'person conducting a business undertaking' where the chain of responsibility did not just stop at the leading hand or the worksite foreman, it actually went up to CEOs and boards of directors. So everyone in the employment of that particular company had some sort of responsibility for the workers underneath them.

My opening statement was 100 pages long to try to allay all the issues that were brought up during second reading speeches, but no matter what was said and what assurances were given, the Liberals opposed it. It got through this chamber by one vote, with the support of the Greens and also the Hon. John Darley. I can only imagine how many lives have been saved since that legislation was brought in and how many injuries have been avoided.

For all of the safety measures, though, of course, there will continue to be work accidents, many of which could possibly be avoided. I think that is one reason we should take this international day very seriously. We need to ensure that every employer, regardless of which measures are already in place, goes that extra yard to see that everything is working as well as possible at the worksite, that they should be keeping an eye out on every employee's safety.

Similarly, every worker needs to be aware for their own safety and for the safety and protection of their workmates. They should be looking out for their mates. Everyone who goes to work, whether it is on a construction site, in an office or on a road—to name just three workplaces—expects to avoid injury in the carrying out of their duties.

The thought that some people actually may not return home at night is unimaginable. The International Labour Organization has been observing the World Day for Safety and Health at Work since 2003. While we in Australia and some other nations have greatly improved working conditions, that is not the case in many countries around the world.

The day is set aside to bring attention to and to advance the opportunity for people in all countries to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. Freedom, equity, security and human dignity are matters we generally take for granted, but sadly are not available in all countries. We need to continue promoting rights at work and, as the UN says, strengthen dialogue in work-related issues.

Without our rules in place, it would not be long before some employers would cut corners, which could result in accidents and injuries. The vast majority of employers are decent employers, they are very honest employers and actually take safety very seriously. It is just those employers who consistently have deaths and injuries in their workplace over and over again.

If you think World Day for Safety and Health at Work is just another reason to have a special day, think again. It reminds us that no matter how diligent we are, we can always improve and we can do our best to make sure that mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, partners and friends who go to work in the morning return home in good health at night.

VETERAN ORGANISATIONS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:52): I rise today to speak about the importance of veteran organisations to this state and to our nation and the impact they have, not just on veterans but on veteran families. To honour those in our community who have served and to provide them and their families with the support and recognition they deserve is something we should all strive for as South Australians.

I am a proud legatee and have spoken about Legacy multiple times in this chamber. I am proud to work alongside and to be mentored by other legatees in the Berri Barmera area, such as

Trevor Richardson, Doug Faerhmann, Kim Heuzenroeder, Greg Beech, Ron Lievin and others, who provide a tremendous service and wonderful support to the widows in our area.

The local Riverland branch of the Legacy Club of South Australia and Broken Hill held their annual general meeting and members' lunch in April of this year. When heading to the Cadell community club, I had the pleasure of escorting the wonderful Mrs June Plush and Mrs Vi Johnson, two long-term Legacy widows, on the hour-long journey each way. It was wonderful to listen to both June and Vi share such memorable stories on the drive to Cadell.

Despite a collective age of well over 180 years, their minds are as sharp as a tack and so many laughs were had as we collectively told stories about our veteran husbands and life as a military partner and wife. They opened my eyes to their experiences in the Riverland as young women, the challenges and opportunities they faced and the collective friendships they shared due to the need to support one another and through mutual understanding.

I always come home from volunteering at Legacy events feeling truly blessed to be able to spend time with women like Vi and June. Whether it is badge day, participating in the Legacy Centenary Torch Relay, hosting the Legacy junior public speaking national award finals right here in this place, or simply sharing a cup of tea and chat with widows and legatees, my heart always feels full at the end of our time together.

As the wife of a former Iraq War veteran, I understand the critical importance of organisations such as Legacy. Many Australian veterans organisations play a crucial role in supporting both former military personnel and those transitioning out of service. They also support the families along for the journey, like my own. These organisations include, of course, Legacy, but numerous others such as Soldier On, Open Arms, the Military and Emergency Services Health Australia (MESHA) and the iconic RSL (Returned and Services League of Australia).

There is an obvious role in preserving the legacy of military service and sacrifice, especially around key dates such as ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and Badge Day, but throughout the year they provide essential support services, financial assistance, health care, housing and employment support, advocacy, and assistance with accessing government benefits.

These not-for-profit organisations do their best every single day. They are organisations structured to provide mental health initiatives catering to the unique needs of veterans. Organisations like Soldier On and Open Arms are there for current service personnel, as well as those who have left the Defence Force, to help look forward and build pathways.

Everyone knows the RSL. They advocate to ensure veterans receive fair treatment and adequate resources through policy. This advocacy is essential for addressing systemic issues and improving the overall wellbeing of veterans. Fostering community and camaraderie is what these organisations are all about, and many lifelong friendships have been built through the likes of Legacy and the War Widows Guild.

However, I am also aware that there are those returned service personnel who feel conflicted and uncomfortable. They have scars from their service. They may have had marriage breakdowns in their absence or upon their return from deployment. Service life is not smooth. It is not always an easy path, hence the reason for such strong support organisations. I would like to acknowledge the work of Dave Petersen, President of the RSL SA/NT, for his work in this space, acknowledging the importance of looking after young veterans and those who fall through the cracks.

If there is one thing I think we do well in this place, it is the bipartisan way this chamber and the other place work together and across party lines to recognise and celebrate these veteran organisations. It is incredibly important that we foster these relationships and promote these organisations for the incredibly important work they do for our veteran community. As Abraham Lincoln once said:

Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field, and serves, as he best can, the same cause.

*Bills***STATUTES AMENDMENT (SEX INDUSTRY - EXIT STRATEGIES AND SPENT CONVICTIONS) BILL***Introduction and First Reading*

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:57): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Spent Convictions Act 2009 and Summary Offences Act 1953. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:59): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

It is my great pleasure to be introducing into this chamber today the Statutes Amendment (Sex Industry—Exit Strategies and Spent Convictions) Bill 2024. Members are aware that in August 2023 I introduced the Summary Offences (Prostitution Law Reform) Bill, and that I brought that bill to a vote on 1 May 2024.

Sadly, that bill did not receive majority support, failing by one vote. Whilst I was very disappointed by that result, as were others who wished to see a reduction in the industry and real support given to those who wish to exit the industry, I was extremely heartened by the support that it did receive, and I think it really speaks to the merit of that bill. This support, I believe, is even more pertinent given that during the second reading speeches made in this place it was noted by an honourable member that it was the first time the Nordic model of prostitution had ever been introduced as a bill in any Australian parliament.

What I am proposing today will again be a nation first. I have always said throughout this whole debate that one of the most important aspects, if not the most important aspect, of the bill is the comprehensive and strategic exit strategies provided to those who wish to leave the industry. I am a strong believer in the need to provide as much practical support as we can to those who are vulnerable and often cannot help themselves.

What this bill is proposing is to provide exit strategies similar to those in my previous bill. Those people who have provided sex in exchange for payment and who wish to exit the industry may make an application to the minister, and the minister must take all reasonable steps to provide such assistance as the minister thinks appropriate.

I did consider and seek advice as to whether I could simply amend my prostitution law reform bill so that it only incorporated the exit strategies and deleted the rest of the provisions, and the very clear advice I received was that this current proposal of reforms is substantially different from that in my previous bill and it was necessary to draft a new bill altogether. I remain a strong believer in the importance of exit strategies and the role that they play in assisting those who would otherwise remain in the industry if these strategies were not available.

On 14 September, the European parliament passed a resolution entitled 'Regulation of prostitution in the EU: its cross-border implications and impact on gender equality and women's rights'. In its preamble, it states:

Leaving prostitution is often a difficult and lengthy process that requires comprehensive socio-economic support, including sufficient budgets and individual counselling taking into account the different pull and push factors, in order to provide needs-orientated support programmes and make such programmes a success for people who want to leave prostitution...The Member States should promote prevention programmes, pathways out, exit and inclusion programmes. These programmes should include safe accommodation, secure care, adequate medical attention, psychological help (trauma therapy), education/training opportunities, support for integration into the wider economy and specialised help for women with addictions and women with children.

As members would be aware, France has adopted the equality model of prostitution, which provides, amongst other things, for comprehensive exit strategies. According to a report released by the French ministry of equality in April 2023, 1,247 persons in prostitution, almost all women and girls from the most discriminated groups, have accessed the state-sponsored exit program. These

programs have radically changed their lives. It is reported that 95 per cent of them have left prostitution permanently at the end of the course.

My bill, aside from outlining important exit strategies, also provides that those who have demonstrated a genuine intention to leave the industry are able to apply for any previous convictions to be spent and they will be taken to have not committed an offence against certain sex industry related offences under the Summary Offences Act. In a sense, they are provided with, to use a colloquial term, 'immunity' should they choose to exit.

My bill targets two lots of offences where immunity is granted and convictions may be spent when someone exits the industry as follows: firstly, the offences of soliciting and loitering in a public space for the purposes of prostitution, which are contained in section 25 of the Summary Offences Act 1953, provided the offence was committed by the seller and not the buyer; and, secondly, the offence of keeping and managing a brothel, which is contained in section 28 of the Summary Offences Act, provided the person was personally providing sex from their principal place of residence and no more than two other persons were providing sex at the same time.

To be clear, this bill does not give the benefits of spent convictions and immunity to those who are running brothels in the conventional sense or to those large-scale operations. I have deliberately confined it to a narrow group of people. It is also important to point out that, under my bill, if at any future point the person returns to certain sex industry related offences, including offences against sections 25, 25A and 28 of the Summary Offences Act, then the provision in the bill which treats them as if they had not committed an offence no longer applies. Their immunity, so to speak, is removed.

This bill will help some of the most vulnerable in our society. Inherently, it contains a strong incentive for persons in prostitution to exit the industry by providing practical support to leave, treating them as if they had not committed the offence and spending their convictions. I appeal to the members of this place to consider it objectively on its merits, and I look forward to the contributions that will be made by members and also, obviously, their support. I seek leave to conclude my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Parliamentary Committees

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE GIG ECONOMY

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:05): I move:

That the report of the select committee be noted.

Before I go into the detail of this report, I want to acknowledge the work of the Hon. Irene Pnevmatikos, who established this committee. She was Chair of the committee, and I was elected to take on the role of Chairperson after the Hon. Irene Pnevmatikos's resignation from this place. I think it is worth reflecting on the Hon. Irene Pnevmatikos's intentions when she established this committee back in 2022. She said:

The flexibility of the gig economy is often promoted as modernising and positive to both workers and businesses. In reality, the gig economy works by undercutting the traditional model of employment upon which many of our rules for worker protection are based.

The committee has recognised the work of the Hon. Irene Pnevmatikos in the report, and we thank her for her contribution to the inquiry.

I think it is fair to say, in reflecting on some of the evidence that we heard, that gig work has been on the increase in South Australia in recent years. Gig work is defined as work where those undertaking this work do so on demand through digital apps, such as Uber, DoorDash or Menulog. Gig workers fall into a different category from other self-employed workers. Many of the protections that are provided to employees under workplace awards or health and safety laws are not valid for gig workers, who operate under online platforms that are not traditionally considered employers.

It is worth noting that the federal government has recently introduced legislation to close the loophole to protect these workers; however, our South Australian committee considered that there

were some areas in which the state may introduce other measures to address remaining issues and provide additional protection to these workers.

One of the key concerns the committee heard was that gig workers often lack minimum employment conditions. There is an absence of workers compensation for these workers, they do not have access to paid leave, and there is no guaranteed minimum wage for the hours worked, no penalty rates and no allowances. It is concerning that, according to research from the McKell Institute, 45 per cent of gig workers are regularly earning less than the minimum wage.

The committee also heard about the practice of deplatforming, where gig workers are removed from the app due to a complaint being received. The Transport Workers' Union told the inquiry that in a normal employment situation you would have a formal recourse; however, that is not available to gig workers. I think that is concerning. We also heard evidence around health and safety concerns, with there being an absence of controls on the minimum hours worked and a lack of regulation of time of rest between long shifts.

While the flexibility of gig work has been attractive to some lifestyle situations, the committee heard that 81 per cent of gig workers were relying on that type of work to make ends meet and were working longer hours or working across multiple platforms during a 24-hour period to achieve financial stability. So whilst it may have suited people in terms of their lifestyle, in effect they were actually working much longer hours without access to some of the benefits that other workers have.

Some of the businesses that host these platforms told the committee that they are attempting to put protections in place. However, I submit that it is clear that we should not rely on ad hoc protections from these platforms and instead there is a strong case for industry regulation. The committee therefore recommended developing accountability standards for platforms in South Australia to give them better protections for risk management, health and safety measures, PPE and minimum pay and conditions.

Not only does this sector impact on the workers involved but also on our state economy across the board. One of the issues that was brought to the committee's attention is the fact that these platforms are not subject to payroll tax as they are not considered to be employer groups. This results in lost revenue for the state, especially given some of these platforms, such as Uber, are replacing services that offer more traditional forms of employment. I guess one example is the impact on the taxi industry.

The committee therefore recommends that the state government investigate amendments to payroll tax systems to consider applying the same obligations to digital platforms so that these digital platforms are subject to the same taxation requirements as those who employ workers directly. There was a concern that payroll tax being applied on businesses that employ people in a direct way was actually penalising those businesses that are in effect doing the right thing.

I will summarise the key recommendations. The first recommendation was that the government review legislation and make changes necessary to ensure consistency with the commonwealth's definition of employee-like workers. The second was that we call on the state government to consider developing accountability standards for platforms operating in South Australia. That would include procedures for identifying and addressing risks for gig workers, workplace health and safety standards, provision of PPE and appropriate training and induction programs for delivery drivers, information being provided to gig workers on the terms and conditions of their work relationship, regular reporting on workplace data and, of course, minimum pay and conditions.

The third recommendation called on the government to develop strategies to ensure international students and migrant workers receive consistent information on their rights at work and different employee relationships and arrangements. The fourth recommendation called on the government to investigate the potential to expand the workers compensation scheme to ensure access by gig economy workers.

The fifth recommendation called on the government to investigate establishing a portable leave entitlement scheme for gig workers. The sixth recommendation called on the government to review occupational health and safety laws to give protection to gig workers. The seventh

recommendation called on the government to consider amendments to state procurement policies to prioritise local companies that directly employ workers or meet minimum standards for gig workers. We did receive some evidence in that regard that the government as an organisation that has significant buying power could use that more effectively to incentivise some of the businesses that are doing the right thing.

The eighth recommendation called on the government to consider adopting the approach and features of the Queensland government's state-based industrial relations system for jurisdiction over non-employees, with the power to make binding determinations, set enforceable standards and resolve disputes, noting that the South Australian Employment Tribunal appears well suited to this role.

The ninth and final recommendation called on the government to investigate amendments to payroll tax systems to consider applying the same obligations to digital platforms as to businesses that directly employ workers.

In concluding, I want to acknowledge the work of the members of the committee: the Hon Reggie Martin, the Hon. Mira El Dannawi, who replaced the Hon. Irene Pnevmatikos, the Hon. Ben Hood and the Hon. Dennis Hood. It was a committee that included a broad cross-section of the parliament, and it is certainly my hope that the government will review the recommendations and provide a response in due course.

I also acknowledge the work of the secretariat for the committee, Emma Johnston, who put in a lot of work to ensure that we have a thorough report that is available for the government's consideration. With that, I conclude my remarks.

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

Motions

ELECTRICITY PRIVATISATION

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (16:15): I move:

That this council—

1. Recognises that this year marks 25 years since the privatisation of the Electricity Trust of South Australia by the Olsen government; and
2. Acknowledges that the decision to privatise ETSA has not delivered favourable outcomes for the South Australian community.

Winston Churchill said:

Truth is incontrovertible. Panic may resent it. Ignorance may deride it. Malice may distort it. But there it is.

Members may be aware that 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of the Olsen Liberal government's privatisation of the Electricity Trust of South Australia. After it had spent roughly half a century under public ownership and control, the Electricity Corporations (Restructuring and Disposal) Act 1999 helped the Olsen Liberals bring an end to that era, laughing in the face of Thomas Playford's vision of state-owned and state-controlled electricity generation and distribution for South Australia—a vision he had worked hard to realise.

When Playford became Premier in 1938 he inherited a state that had been persistently in deficit. Having an economy dominated by agriculture, South Australia had long been at the mercy of commodity markets. Industrialisation seemed to Playford the obvious way forward into a more prosperous future, and it would give industry a running start, he knew, if he enabled them to access electricity at low cost.

Assisted by wartime regulations and considerable public support, Playford forced a royal commission into the private monopoly Adelaide Electricity Supply Company. Then, with financial backing from the commonwealth, where he was the fortunate beneficiary of the likeminded support from one of my heroes, Ben Chifley, Playford nationalised AESCo to create the Electricity Trust of South Australia in September 1946.

Playford's policies helped South Australia's industrial boom to take off, fundamentally transforming our economy and our identity as a state and giving many of us the lives we know today. Playford was a visionary in the true sense, which led to the economic and political pragmatism that enabled him to leap South Australia forward. He saw postwar opportunity and hungrily went after it, amid derision and obstruction from his own party, and his efforts paid extraordinary dividends. Too few were like Playford, and too few still are.

Indeed, along with the other baggage today's South Australian Liberals carry, they are still wearing the ETSA sale in the court of public opinion. That is not speculation by me—relatively recent opinion polls by entities such as *The Advertiser* have shown it. Going into the 1997 election saying they would not sell ETSA and then turning around and doing it anyway, was a stunning betrayal of the South Australian community, and some may say the SA Liberals are still struggling to recover public trust and credibility 25 years later.

But little wonder, because as recently as the term of the Marshall government the Liberals have demonstrated that they are still deeply attached to their ideologically driven practice of privatising essential public services. Against Playford's vision, the current Liberals apparently still do not want to give up the habit, but the South Australian community can plainly see that privatisation has created an electricity system that is dysfunctional in more than one way.

First, there is the matter of the infrastructure and the need to transition to new means of generation, against the backdrop of the deep, uncharted change that is taking place as the economy transitions to a net zero future. The energy system was built over the past century on engineering principles that no longer apply, that is, it was engineered so that a few large generators could supply energy into transmission lines, which in turn delivered into a thinner and thinner distribution network.

It was a one-way flow, with much of the information on how the system was functioning not being in real time. Now there is a multitude of generators supplying into the transmission network and into the distribution network, down to the level of residential rooftop solar and batteries exporting into the network. It is a multi-directional flow and needs to have real-time data to retain security and reliability of supplier.

Privatisation has complicated the pathway to make this engineering transition because regulatory reforms are clunky and slow to realise. This is despite the need for swift action because of the rapidly shifting global policies and economic landscape. The ageing of our generators coincides with the decarbonisation imperative to reduce fossil fuel consumption, as well as fossil fuels' inability to compete on price against wind and solar generators. The replacement is urgent, but privatisation is a barrier to the rebuild.

Private companies come at the answer to the various complexities and challenges of our energy system from the perspective of making a financial profit, not from the perspective of what engineering solution is needed or what would best serve the public interest. If planning for this system was fully in the hands of government, as it used to be, there would be an orderly build of new generation ahead of the closure of old generation. We could be much more agile and much more responsive both to community need and to economic and environmental imperatives.

Given the extraordinary results in driving the renewable transition that the Rann and Weatherill governments managed to achieve, and given what the Malinauskas government is now further positioning our state to achieve, it almost hurts to imagine the strides we could have made had the privatisation never occurred. Then there is the impact of privatisation on pricing and cost to consumers. Deciding to sell electricity through a reverse auction style market, rather than selling based on the cost to produce it, has been disastrous.

Generators bid into the market, and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) accepts offers from the lowest to the highest. AEMO only accepts bids where transmission line capacity is sufficient to convey that quantity of energy. That transmission constraint prevents the full price benefits of renewables being enjoyed because they are often further away from the demand centres. AEMO accepts bids up to the point where supply is balanced with demand, and then everyone with lower bids gets paid at the rate of the final bid, so almost everyone gets paid more than their original bid offer at all times.

My understanding is that the market allows bids in the range of minus \$1,000 per megawatt hour to plus \$16,600 per megawatt hour. Theoretically, allowing for bids above the marginal cost of operating the generator provides a revenue stream to fund capital investment. However, confidently calculating this extra revenue is fraught with uncertainty, and companies, therefore, err on the side of charging more to ensure that they can comfortably recover capital costs.

Moreover, the market rules allow companies to withdraw their bids up to the final moment and then re-bid that same capacity at a higher price for commercial reasons, as well as technical reasons. Remember, everyone gets paid at the final bid price, so a generator, realising supply is tight, can withdraw a small amount of capacity tied to a low price bid, then re-bid at a high price because they know it will be needed to match demand. Then their entire dispatch and every other generator's dispatched units will be paid at the top dollar.

I would like to give some examples that, to the best of my understanding, are from the past year of how that works, as documented by the Australian Energy Regulator, which reports on events where prices exceed \$5,000 per megawatt hour. On 27 February this year, Energy Australia re-bid capacity at its Hallett plant from prices below \$400 per megawatt hour and below \$300 per megawatt hour to the price cap of \$16,600 per megawatt hour. According to the AER, these re-bids for technical reasons contributed to the higher prices as they affected the final few megawatts needed at the time.

On 28 June 2023, AEMO needed 25 megawatts to 30 megawatts of capacity to meet demand because there was less wind than expected and the Victorian interconnector was constrained because of maintenance work. ENGIE re-bid 65 megawatts at the Snuggery power station from \$4,664 to \$13,281 and AGL re-bid 130 megawatts at Torrens Island from \$176 to \$15,500 per megawatt hour.

On 9 November 2023, when ENGIE's Pelican Point power station encountered technical issues, AGL withdrew its bid of 125 megawatts at a price below \$176 and re-bid that capacity at \$16,600 per megawatt hour, the maximum they could bid. This was a commercial decision, the AER said. It meant AGL was paid at an hourly rate of \$2.1 million instead of the \$22,000 that they had originally bid at. Let me just say that again: they were paid the hourly rate of \$2.1 million instead of \$22,000 for exactly the same service and exactly the same amount. As a commercial practice, that might fly because of the system that we have permitted to exist, but morally it is indefensible, and I would be stunned to hear a defence of this practice from any member here.

Of course, South Australia is not the only jurisdiction where this re-bidding behaviour takes place. It occurs across the National Electricity Market, but unlike most of the other jurisdictions participating in the NEM we have no state-owned generation that can help to apply downward pressure on prices, especially after the Marshall Liberal government leased the publicly owned generators purchased by the Weatherill government.

Had ETSA remained a publicly owned entity, our ability to influence the way that South Australia interacts with the NEM would have been much greater. We have lost almost entirely the ability to participate as an actor in this landscape. The sale of ETSA was presented to the public as necessary to protect the state from bankruptcy. The premier at the time said directly to the electorate via a statewide advertising campaign that, due to the state's debt position, 'there is no alternative'. He also stood in parliament and threatened a levy on everyone's power prices if ETSA was not sold, sneeringly calling it the Rann tax.

Let us make no mistake: putting South Australian power consumers in that position by selling ETSA was a choice by the Olsen Liberal government. In 1998, Don Dunstan correctly pointed out that, if you measured debt as a percentage of GSP, that percentage in South Australia was significantly higher during the Playford era than in 1993 when the Olsen government came to power. In actual fact, it was nearly double the percentage in 1949-50 compared to 1993.

The creation of ETSA as a public entity formed a crucial part of Playford's strategy to build our state's prosperity and it worked. Unsurprisingly, Dunstan had a lot more to say about the matter. He leapt to the defence of his old political adversary Playford's economically and morally sound basis for setting up ETSA as a publicly owned entity. Of the privatisation, he said:

The only reason that this course is being pursued, contrary to the experience in South Australia leading to the setting up of our publicly owned electricity undertaking, is the ideological position that the community and

governments should run nothing in the way of service undertaking and that social needs will inevitably be met if everything has as its sole object the making of private profit.

He continued:

In planning our future, it serves neither economic efficiency nor social justice to destroy institutions which society, from experience, has created and which are efficiently meeting the social needs of the community. They are not impediments to progress but foundations for it.

So did the privatisation of ETSA serve the public interest? I cannot construct any version of events where the answer is anything but a resounding no, but we may well hear arguments from members opposite that the Olsen government's betrayal of Playford's vision and its betrayal of the South Australian people were justified.

In an effort not to depress yourself, you can try not to contemplate all that South Australia lost in the sale of ETSA, but even if you can push it to the back of your mind it is lodged permanently in the collective awareness of our community—our recognition of its magnitude and the incontrovertible truth of its being. Ignorance may deride it. Malice may distort it. But there it is.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. B.R. Hood.

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon. S.L. GAME (16:29): I move:

That this council—

1. Acknowledges that families and kids may visit the South Australian Art Gallery without being informed that it features sexual and adult-themed content that is inappropriate for children;
2. Acknowledges the right of parents to be informed about the possibility of their children being exposed to highly sexualised or adult-themed content at the South Australian Art Gallery, whether it be during a school excursion or a public visit; and
3. Calls for family-friendly zones to be implemented at the South Australian Art Gallery's public exhibitions.

I wish to speak on this motion regarding the public concerns that have been raised with me on the appropriateness of certain displays at the Art Gallery of South Australia and, in particular, concerns on the appropriateness of these displays for children.

My motion was prompted, in particular, by two sculptures, *Buck with Cigar* and *Big Mother*, which I am calling to be relocated within the Art Gallery of South Australia to a space designated for adult-themed content. I have been accused of not having done my homework on some of these sculptures, and to that, I have looked further into said artworks, although my position on them has not changed. For the benefit of anyone else engaging in this debate, I offer a brief summary of them.

The first piece is by British artist Marc Quinn. It is a life-sized sculpture of Buck Angel called *Buck with Cigar*, now a permanent fixture at the Art Gallery. A transgender man, Buck Angel is a former pornographic film actor and producer. Having had his breasts removed, his trademark has become, and I will not put it on *Hansard*, the man with a 'p' word pertaining to female genitalia. It is his trademark in his adult films. He was the first trans man to feature in an all-male porn film. He has received various nominations including one for Most Outrageous Sex Scene, and he has been nominated as Transsexual Performer of the Year a number of times.

I will not list all Buck's accolades now because they are just too extensive, but I will mention that Buck has also begun to transition from the porn industry to sex education, in particular addressing what Buck perceives as societal constructs reducing the perception of masculinity and maleness for one having a vagina.

The second work is *Big Mother* by Patricia Piccinini, an Australian artist, depicting a genetically engineered animal with a prominent gaping vulva breastfeeding a human baby positioned opposite a classical piece depicting mother Mary and baby Jesus. The primate mother, overwhelmed by her grief at the death of her own baby, abducts a human baby to nurse as a substitute. Patricia Piccinini is known for her hyperreal sculptures of imaginary creatures that could be potentially produced through genetic engineering.

Let's be clear: this motion is not about censorship or the banning of art, it is about the protection of children and the preservation of childhood. My Education and Children's Services (Parental Primacy) Amendment Bill previously introduced into this place, which serves to restore parents' rights on the moral and ethical teachings of children, has had much public support. As occurs when our parliament is out of touch with the people of South Australia, criticism is already being hurled from my parliamentary colleagues on this matter. I point out that I speak on behalf of my constituents and I believe there is much community support.

A recent *Advertiser* article on the matter showed 68 per cent of the more than 3,000 voters believed these sculptures were inappropriate for children, and 81 per cent of the almost 1,500 *Daily Mail* voters on the matter agreed with me. Some in the media say, 'But art is to provoke discussion and thought. What is your problem with that, Ms Game?' The problem is that I feel children should be left to be children and to grow up as who they are meant to be. I do not believe that children should be burdened by adult problems and adult concepts unnecessarily.

If there is public outrage at the Renmark incident in which year 9 students were exposed to concepts of bestiality and images of transgender surgery, why is it acceptable for primary school children to be exposed without adult consent on a seemingly innocent trip to the Art Gallery? 'Why has that man got a vagina?' asked the seven-year-old child of one of my constituents. I do believe that parents have a right to influence when these discussions take place.

Much debate has stirred on this matter before parliament and the criticism has been made that I have not been up close with aforementioned pieces. I would draw to this chamber's attention that there are numerous issues I have a particular viewpoint or objection to that I have not witnessed, and they include my objection to pornography, prostitution, illicit drug taking, dangerous driving and violence. For now, I will be relying on my research and photographic evidence, as is the case for many outcomes of the judicial system where one cannot, for various reasons, be present at the scene of the crime.

I would like to thank the constituents who sent in the photographs depicting the pieces—some photographs evidencing primary school children on a school excursion next to these statues. I was lucky enough to miss the sculptures on my visit with my three children years ago. As so happens, some members in this place have already spoken of their passion and support for these sculptures. I am aware that the Hon. Frank Pangallo has come out publicly and passionately to support the placement and inclusion of these sculptures in the public taxpayer-funded place, which involves itself in the education of our children, describing them as 'stunning'.

I would say to the honourable member: it is best to understand the argument before unleashing a public rebuttal. If the Hon. Frank Pangallo would like to enjoy these pieces, I suggest that they make it possible for the member and other like-minded members of the community, but that they do so in a space away from primary school children visiting.

The Hon. Frank Pangallo has accused me of wanting to cover the glorious *Statue of David* with fig leaves. Let me assure the chamber, I have no intention of bringing such a motion to the house. The magnificent *Statue of David* by Michelangelo, which I have enjoyed from close-up on a visit to Florence, firstly, depicts a body more familiar to children, and, certainly, upon visiting the Accademia Gallery, parents know what to expect from this well-known masterpiece. The same cannot be said for well-intentioned parents signing excursion permission slips for primary school aged children to the Art Gallery of South Australia. As one member of the public put so well, 'It's not about culture wars, it's about the sexualisation of young children. Put the sculptures somewhere else.'

My motion is not about stifling artistic expression but ensuring that our taxpayer-funded public spaces respect the rights of parents to guide their children's development. It is a balanced approach that upholds both the value of art and the right of families. It is up to parents to decide what is age appropriate for their children. Last time I checked, public polls also agree with that statement. I hope, upon voting in weeks to come on this matter, the parliament does not show itself once again to be deaf to the wishes of the people. I commend this motion to the chamber.

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

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (16:37): I move:

That this council—

1. Recognises that this year marks 75 years of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO);
2. Acknowledges the many notable and world-leading scientific achievements of the CSIRO and its researchers over its decades of operation;
3. Affirms the fundamental importance of scientific research and innovation to promoting human health and wellbeing, a successful society, and a prosperous economy; and
4. Commends the crucial role played by the CSIRO in our nation's historic, contemporary and future contributions to scientific and technological advancement.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's national agency responsible for scientific research. It is also one of the largest research organisations in the world. It works across a diverse range of scientific fields and it has been responsible for some amazing world-leading scientific breakthroughs and innovations over its years of operation.

This year, 2024, marks the 75th anniversary of the CSIRO as we know it today, but federally funded scientific research in Australia began in 1916 through the Advisory Council of Science and Industry, and, in 1926, the research effort was reinvigorated by the establishment of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). This predecessor to today's CSIRO grew rapidly and achieved significant early success. In fact, by the end of its first full year of operations in 1927, the CSIR had 53 staff located across all six Australian states.

The outbreak of World War II saw the CSIR conducting research to assist the Australian Defence Force in areas such as radar. After the war, CSIR Research expanded to include many new areas, especially across Australia's most important sectors of industry. In 1949, CSIR ceased all defence work for the military and was renamed CSIRO. It is this anniversary, the advent of the CSIRO as we now know it, that my motion seeks to recognise and celebrate today.

The modern CSIRO works with industry, government, and the research sector to turn science into solutions, not just for the benefit of our community but for communities and people around the world. Their work addresses some of Australia's greatest challenges, including responding to climate change and the risks of biodiversity collapse, ensuring water and food security, and maintaining human health and wellbeing. The CSIRO recognises that these are complex and interdependent challenges, requiring new thinking and strong collaboration from across public institutions, industry, the research sector, civil society and the community.

The CSIRO does not just think about science in an abstract way. It focuses on what it calls 'impact science', putting its research and its innovations to work in our lives. I would like to outline just some of the developments by the CSIRO over the decades that have made life easier and helped to drive change for people within our nation and around the world.

The CSIRO invented fast Wireless LAN technology, which is now known as wi-fi. The invention of this technology has earned the CSIRO more than \$430 million in royalties and has led to a fundamental transformation in the way we connect with one another and share information. The CSIRO developed the first commercially successful polymer banknote, the technology for which is now used for more than 30 denominations around the world. NASA's spacecraft tracking facilities are located in Australia and run by the CSIRO. The first effective influenza treatment, Relenza, was invented by the CSIRO in 1987. They also launched the Equivac Hendra virus vaccine for horses in November 2012.

A researcher called Doug Waterhouse, who carried out pioneering studies on the sheep blowfly, turned his attention during World War II to ways of protecting allied troops from the mosquitoes responsible for malarial transmission. By 1943, his repellent was widely deployed for troops in the Pacific, and Doug was considered a hero, but it took the visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Australia in 1963 for the repellent to become a household name.

At a garden party held at Government House in Canberra, there was a bit of a fly problem, which bothered the Queen. The next day, however, was a different story when Government House staff made sure the Queen was liberally sprayed with Doug Waterhouse's repellent before she headed off for a game of golf. Word about the CSIRO's new fly repellent spread, and a few days later Mortein called Doug Waterhouse for his formula, which he passed on freely, as was CSIRO's policy at the time. So next time you reach for a can of Aerogard, you can thank Doug Waterhouse and the CSIRO.

Another piece of CSIRO work that went quietly global is this: in the 1960s, two CSIRO researchers, Isabel Bear and Richard Grenfell Thomas, who was a South Australian mineralogist and a biochemist, and the son of a pastoralist from Kapunda, came up with the word that is now used across dozens of languages to describe the unique smell that can often be noticed just as rain begins to fall on dry soil.

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: Petrichor.

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN: The word 'petrichor', as the scientist the Hon. Ian Hunter has just alluded to, comes from the Greek word 'petra', meaning rock, and 'ichor', which in Greek mythology refers to the ethereal fluid that flows through the veins of the Gods. There is plenty of fascinating science behind the phenomenon itself, but I will not go into it today. In addition to its world-changing science, being responsible for the creation of a neologism that is now so widely used across the world's languages is a charming claim to fame for the CSIRO and for South Australia.

The CSIRO has given us plenty of other fascinating and world-leading innovations, like extended wear contact lenses, broccoli powder—of which two tablespoons is nutritionally equivalent to one serve of vegetables—and biological agents for the control of wild rabbit populations. A number of the CSIRO's most notable achievements are globally known innovations that many, perhaps even some who are listening to my remarks today, may not have known to be the work of the CSIRO.

I have always been a bit of a science nerd, particularly across fields related to technology, but in moving this motion I look not to my own interest in the sciences as disciplines of thought, but to Australia's national interest, and the way in which the work of the CSIRO has served and advanced it through the decades.

Scientific innovation underpins our modern way of life. Without good science and the brilliant minds who drive it, we will not be able to continue to live well into the future and we will not be able to meet and conquer its challenges. Science has always been important to reaching good and favourable outcomes for our community of modern Australia.

During the Abbott government—which, by the way, was the first time since 1931 that there has been no minister of science—\$110 million was cut from the CSIRO budget in 2014. Lest anyone think I am engaging in partisan sledging, I note that the Morrison government invested heavily in the CSIRO during the COVID pandemic, with a \$222 million upgrade to the CSIRO's containment facility and a further \$66 million for future pandemic planning and research to develop a vaccine and treatments for COVID-19.

The fact is, good science is so crucially important to our future that government's recognition of its role in underpinning our success as a nation must transcend politics. As the challenges we face as a community and as a human race become increasingly complex, the role of science in positioning us for future prosperity and wellbeing has significantly expanded. Our state, our nation and our world rely on scientific advancement and innovation as much today as we ever have, if not more. The CSIRO has a vital role to play in realising the future that humanity deserves.

I call upon members to support this motion of recognition for the proud institution whose work has been important to our nation since the institution's inception. I also urge all members to join me in recognising what we stand to gain by pursuing world-changing innovations and what we stand to lose by failing to do so. To all who work at and with the CSIRO, I say thank you. May the next 75 years bring even greater heights of achievement.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. B.R. Hood.

IRAN, HUMAN RIGHTS

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. M. El Dannawi:

That this council—

1. Notes that 2024 marks 45 years since the Iranian Revolution of 1979, which dramatically altered the sociopolitical landscape of Iran;
2. Condemns the Iranian regime's systemic repression and violation of human rights, including through suppression of women's rights, religious persecution, the use of morality police, public executions, torture, and state-sponsored terrorism;
3. Notes the concern over Tehran's growing use of terrorism, espionage, cyber attacks and hostage-taking diplomacy to restrict and eliminate the Iranian democratic opposition;
4. Supports people in Iran in their demands for a just, democratic and secular Iran and urges the international community to do the same;
5. Endorses the United Nations' independent investigation into human rights violations and the commonwealth's targeted sanctions against individuals and entities found to be directly responsible for or complicit in these violations;
6. Calls on the state government to continue dialogue and engagement with Iranian community associations and diaspora communities to amplify their voices and support their efforts; and
7. Calls on the federal government to continue dialogue with Iran to address the human rights violations being perpetrated against people in Iran.

(Continued from 15 May 2024.)

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:46): I rise on behalf of the Greens to support the motion put before this place by the Hon. Mira El Dannawi, and I thank her for doing so and for her work with the community. The Iranian Revolution of 1977-79 was the first in a series of mass popular civil insurrections that would result in the overthrow of authoritarian regimes in dozens of countries over the next three decades.

Unlike most of the other uprisings that would topple dictators in Latin America, Eastern Europe and parts of Asia and Africa, the result of the Iranian struggle was not the establishment of liberal democracy but of a new form of authoritarianism. Through mass arms transfers from the United States, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi built one of the most powerful armed forces ever seen in the Middle East. His American-trained secret police, the SAVAK, are thought to have successfully terrorised the population into submission during the next two decades, through widespread killings, torture and mass detentions.

By the mid-1970s, most of the leftist liberal nationalists and other secular opposition leaders had been repressed through murder, imprisonment or exile, and most of their organisations banned. It was impossible to suppress the Islamist opposition as thoroughly, however, as it was out of mosques, among the mullahs, that much of the organised leadership of the movement against the Shah's dictatorship emerged.

Despite providing rhetorical support for an improvement in the human rights situation in Iran, the Carter administration continued military and economic support for the Shah's increasingly repressive regime, even providing fuel for the armed forces and other security services facing shortages due to the strikes. Under enormous pressure, the oil workers returned to work but continued to stage slowdowns.

Late in November, the Shah's nightly speeches were interrupted when workers cut off the electricity at precisely the time of his scheduled addresses. Massive protests filled the streets in major cities in December, as oil workers walked out again, and an ongoing general strike closed the refineries and the central bank.

Despite thousands of unarmed protesters being killed by the Shah's forces, the protesters' numbers increased, with as many as nine million Iranians taking to the streets in cities across the nation in largely non-violent protests. The Shah fled on 16 January 1979, and Ayatollah Khomeini returned from exile two weeks later. He appointed Mehdi Bazargan Prime Minister, thus establishing a parallel government to challenge the Shah's appointed Prime Minister, Shapour Bakhtiar.

With the loyalty of the vast majority clearly with the new Islamic government, Bakhtiar resigned on 11 February. The regime had shifted far to the right by the spring of 1981, purging moderate Islamists, including the elected president, Abolhassan Banisadr, and imposing a totalitarian system.

On 12 September 2022, Mahsa 'Jina' Amini, who I will call Jina Amini, a 22-year-old woman from Saqqez, Kurdistan Province, who had travelled to Tehran alone with her family, was detained on charges of 'mal-veiling' by a branch of the regime's security forces tasked with suppressing women, particularly in relation to their attire. Jina was transferred to a police station to obtain her commitment to the regime's misogynistic laws. While in custody she was beaten severely by agents of the state security forces and later died in hospital due to skull fractures.

Following this tragedy, waves of anti-regime protests broke out in Iran, starting on 16 September 2022, initially in condemnation of Jina's murder. By December 2022 the uprising had spread to at least 300 cities in all 31 provinces of the country, including many universities and high schools. On some days during this period at least 60 locations in Tehran alone flared with protests.

The uprising formed in protest to the regime's killing of Jina in an unplanned and somewhat spontaneous way, but it really is a reflection of an organised resistance across Iran, a resistance with deep social and political roots in fighting the suppression of popular demands for the past 40 years by the mullahs' rule.

The killing of Jina acted as a spark that exploded the powder keg of Iranian society. This explosive state has its roots in extensive sociopolitical suppression, egregious violation of citizens' human rights, economic ruin, high commodity prices, poverty, unemployment, hunger and environmental disasters emanating from corruption and mismanagement, among many other factors. As put by Dr Saba Vasefi, a scholar journalist, the young woman's death was a physical manifestation of a deep, national, decades-long pain. Her quote reads:

Mahsa [Jina] Amini's murder burst open this four decades of problems in the throats of thousands of Iranians traumatised by the ruthlessness and the authoritarianism of the Islamic Republic.

It has now been over a year since the death of Jina Amini, and Iranians continue to face terror and violence under the current regime. This is not a new behaviour of the Iranian regime. In 1988 Iranian authorities, acting under the orders of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khomeini, summarily and extrajudicially executed thousands of political prisoners across the country. They executed between 2,800 and 5,000 prisoners in at least 32 cities across the country.

Today, over 10 people each week are put to death in Iran. Think about that: 10 families ripped apart at the hands of a brutal state, often for doing no more or less than speaking up for democracy, speaking up for freedom. In 2023, executions in Iran hit an eight-year high of some 834 people, and by the end of March that year already 95 executions had been recorded. Imagine all those that have not been recorded.

Too many innocent Iranians have lost their lives, have been repressed and have been silenced, and too many families have grieved and felt loss and pain under this regime. The endless persecution of peaceful protestors continues as we are here today in this council. Iran's so-called morality police still arrest women for not acting in accordance with interpretations of the law. They still place people within environments that lead to their torture and to their murder.

After the recent death of President Ebrahim Raisi, Iranians again find themselves in a perilous period. Heading to another general election with anticipated low voter turnout, this will be a significant challenge for the regime at a time when its public legitimacy is at its lowest.

Everyday Australian Iranians across the country are working, they are giving their time, labour and energy to ensure that the cause of democracy, of freedom for women, and life in Iran is something with which this government has to contend. The Greens stand in solidarity today with protestors across Iran and with communities fighting for the rights of women. The world will be a better place when Iran is free and its people live under a democratic republic in peace with its neighbours and with the world.

The Iranian people have shown us that the path to this ideal is necessarily through the popular abolishment of the present regime. The least we can do is stand with them in these places

of democracy and remove the impediments that appeasement policy in the West has created towards this goal for far too many decades. With that, I commend the motion.

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (16:55): I rise today on behalf of the opposition in support of the private member's motion moved by the Hon. Mira El Dannawi. When the death of Mahsa Amini first sparked protests in Iran in September 2022, the Iranian regime's violent crackdown on protestors, widespread arrests and retribution against women and girls shocked us all. I understand that at the time many community leaders contacted my colleague the Hon. Jing Lee in her role as shadow minister for multicultural South Australia to raise awareness of the matter and share their deep concerns about the Iranian authorities' repressive response.

In September 2022, the Hon. Jing Lee issued a public statement of support for the Iranian community in South Australia and declared that we, the Liberal Party, stood shoulder to shoulder with Iranians seeking freedom and justice. In 2022, the Hon. Tung Ngo brought a motion to this place about these protests and women's rights in Iran. It is a motion that passed this chamber with the support of the opposition, amongst the support of others in this place.

During that debate, I spoke about my time growing up under Sharia law, growing up in a country where at the time it was forbidden to practise one's faith publicly other than Islam, a place where I was required to wear an abaya in public, to cover my hair when requested to by matawa or religious police, and religious police were often accompanied by a police escort who could order the detention and the arrest of violators, where stonings, lashings and beheadings were common, where there was no freedom of speech, public worship or association, and a place where at the time the media and the internet were censored and where there was a ban on public demonstrations and marches.

In my contribution, I spoke about the importance of the freedoms and democracy we are so fortunate to have in Australia. I have not just read about the dispensing of freedoms in a book, left to imagine what it might ultimately look like, I have seen it firsthand. It serves as a reminder to me that we should never take our freedoms or our democracy for granted.

Australia is a liberal democracy, where exercising one's right of religion is a free choice, as it should be. People are free to choose if they practise a religion, what religion that may be and if they choose so how they wish to practise that religion. In some countries, wearing or not wearing a hijab is a choice. In Iran, the hijab is mandatory.

I note that since last speaking on this important issue in parliament, the report of the federal Senate inquiry into the 'Human rights implications of recent violence in Iran' has been released. The grave reports of human rights violations committed by the regime and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps prompted the committee to make a series of recommendations to strengthen Australia's response to the regime. I also note that the 'Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran' has released the latest report into human rights in February 2024.

The Special Rapporteur found that the use of violence against protesters and political opponents, the deplorable treatment of women and girls, the repression of minority ethnic groups and sexual minority communities continues unabated. These reports further confirm what we have continued to see in the limited news and social media coverage coming out of Iran, along with the concerns raised by many community leaders and organisations who are striving to advocate for and amplify the voices of those trying to achieve change in Iran.

In addition to highlighting horrific human rights violations, the Senate inquiry's report found credible reports of the regime's increasing use of cybercrime, hostage diplomacy, foreign interference and intimidation and threats against Australian citizens, residents and their families. It is my understanding that many of the witnesses who gave evidence to the committee feared retribution from the Iranian government, either for families still in Iran or themselves and their family members here in Australia.

No-one living in Australia should feel threatened by a foreign power, and I wish to credit the bravery and determination of all who gave testimony to the inquiry, despite these fears. Further to the evidence presented to the Senate inquiry regarding espionage, foreign interference and hostage

diplomacy, Iran's recent drone and missile attacks on Israel are destabilising and an escalation that threatens the region.

The commonwealth government has since imposed targeted financial sanctions and travel bans, including sanctions on 90 individuals and 100 entities in response to Iran's actions. I wish to again reiterate that we stand in solidarity with the women-led movement in Iran, and strongly support the rights of Iranians to calling for democracy and basic human rights and freedoms. We have a vibrant and passionate Iranian and Persian community in South Australia, who continue to be deeply affected by the policies and actions of the Iranian regime.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all the Iranian community leaders, organisations and volunteers in South Australia for their continued advocacy in support of the freedoms and the rights of women in Iran. They are a symbol of hope that, maybe one day, they, too, will share the freedoms that we here in Australia are so fortunate to have.

The Hon. M. EL DANNAWI (17:01): I thank honourable members for their valuable contributions to the debate: the Hon. Tammy Franks and the Hon. Laura Henderson. I was motivated to bring this motion by members of the Iranian community here in Adelaide, who I know also met with the Hon. Tammy Franks and shared their stories as well—groups such as the Australian Iranian Community Alliance and Australian Supporters of Democracy in Iran, as well as many individuals who have been outspoken advocates for human rights.

I thank everyone who shared their stories with me and continue to advocate fiercely for the rights of the Iranian people for freedom, democracy and social justice. I am proud to stand in solidarity with the people of Iran, and I am also proud to stand in solidarity with all people who are struggling for their freedom and dignity.

Motion carried.

ANZAC DAY

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. L.A. Henderson:

That this council—

1. Recognises that ANZAC Day was commemorated on Thursday 25 April 2024;
2. Pays its respects to the families of those ANZACs who tragically lost their lives during the capture of the Gallipoli Peninsula;
3. Shows its gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of their country; and
4. Remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving.

(Continued from 1 May 2024.)

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (17:03): I will move an amendment to this motion, but, first, I thank the Hon. Laura Henderson for bringing this motion to the parliament to acknowledge the importance of ANZAC Day. ANZAC Day is one of Australia's most important national occasions, and marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during World War I. The 25th of April officially was named ANZAC Day in 1916. I move the amendment standing in my name, as follows:

Leave out all words after 'during the' and insert 'Gallipoli campaign'.

This ensures the wording is correct in this excellent and very important motion, to ensure that everyone, not just from World War I but all wars, are acknowledged for their service to our country. It is a huge honour as a member to go along to ANZAC Day services on 25 April to ensure we continue remembering those who served our country and those who continue to serve our country right across this nation.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (17:04): I commend the honourable member on her motion, recognising the importance of commemorating ANZAC Day but also the many Australians who served in the defence of their country. I indicate that I will be supporting the Hon. Heidi Girolamo's amendment.

I will not go much into the history of ANZAC Day and what it means to all Australians. We are quite familiar with the story, as it evolved from that fateful dawn landing on the shores of Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, until the ANZAC forces withdrew under the cover of darkness nine months later, without gaining any ground but with enormous casualties.

In military terms it was a disaster, orchestrated by the British Army. It is often asked: why do we commemorate such an ignominious defeat? Perhaps part of the answer lies in the spiritual and symbolic sacrifice of tens of thousands of young men in the prime of their lives, who enlisted as volunteers to fight for freedom in lands totally foreign to them, and the naivety of the equally confusing politics which started the conflict.

Many of those ANZACs went on to fight in the most horrific theatres of war on the Western Front, leaving so many who managed to survive psychologically and medically scarred for the rest of their lives. The condition known as post-traumatic stress disorder was not fully understood in those days. It was simply put as shell shock, and there was little or no support for them on their return after it ended in 1919. They say the exuberant and brave spirit of those Australian and New Zealand soldiers helped forge the nation and the freedoms this lucky country and our neighbours across the ditch enjoy today.

Heroism and glory aside, war can also bring out the worst in humanity. We are seeing that today on the same soil where the ANZACs once walked, yet there is a blot on the history of the ANZACs rarely mentioned, but it was raised recently by Palestinians. I will mention it here, not in disrespect of the ANZACs and ANZAC Day but to acknowledge it did occur—a shameful, isolated chapter that has been largely forgotten.

That was the massacre of between 40 and 137 male villagers in the Bedouin camp of Sarafand al-Amar on 10 December 1918 by Australian, New Zealand and Scottish troops, avenging the murder of a New Zealand trooper by a thief believed to have come from the camp and born out of frustration that the British failed to act on petty crime and murders that had been committed—not an excuse as, by today's standards, it constituted a war crime. No-one was charged for the massacre but reparations were paid for the damage caused to the camp.

On a more contemporary note, the diggers of both world wars would turn in their graves today at the sorry state of our Defence Force. If a conflict erupted today, Australia could not defend itself and would need to rely on allies, like the United States and the UK, to come to our aid. Apart from a few bombing sorties on Darwin, and a foiled mini-sub attack in Sydney Harbour by the Japanese during World War II, Australia has not yet been invaded or attacked by hostile forces.

We do not have enough boots on the ground to repel a large army. We do not have enough sailors to crew the few warships in service. Our Collins class submarines are either in dock getting repairs or incapable of repelling much superior vessels. We do not yet have the required skilled personnel to build the new age nuclear submarines we desperately need right now, not in a decade. We have not even seen a prototype of the reduced number of Hunter class frigates being designed in the UK by BAE. Australia does not even have a single killer drone. Our Air Force lacks potent firepower. We do not have any ballistic missile sites.

In short, Australia is the biggest sitting duck in the ASEAN region, and it is embarrassing at a time when our Premier was over in the United States trying to convince the Americans that we can build their super-duper nuke subs here when he knows deep down that we cannot fill the jobs that are required locally and that he needs to pitch the jobs push to other states.

This is why I have been calling for the return of national service to bolster our Defence Force, to make it compulsory for our young men and women on turning 18 years of age to do at least one year of service in our Defence Force. It happens in many countries across the world, including in Europe, South America and Asia. The British Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, has flagged it too as an election commitment, saying it is needed for them to not only be ready to defend their shores in these dangerous and uncertain times but also to give them valuable skills and make their country more secure and build a stronger national culture.

Sadly, our youth need toughening up to meet these challenges. We have bred a very soft and entitled generation. But what do our Prime Minister and defence minister, Richard Marles, do?

Their new policy of recruiting defence personnel is to get them from overseas countries. It is an outrage and scandalous. In effect, they will be recruiting an army of mercenaries from countries like the US, Canada and New Zealand, and from the Pacific. Who would not want to come and live in Australia with all the generous benefits it brings? But will they have any nationalistic pride? How long will they be required to serve, or will they drop out like we have seen with police recruiting? How many do they intend to bring in and how does that conflict with the government's migration policy, which they say they are now reducing in numbers? Where will they be housed? We cannot build enough houses now for existing families.

This is just a disgraceful, poorly planned policy by a gutless government that is not brave enough to go down the path of national service because they are in fear of an electoral backlash. They need to show some nerves of steel and put the defence of this country and its citizens first, like Rishi Sunak is doing, not waiting until the first shots in anger are directed at us.

The Australian put it into perspective with its post-budget headline, 'All talk and no action on our defence'. The Albanese government will not be able to improve our military capabilities for at least a decade and, as former foreign minister Alexander Downer described it, in an era more dangerous than the tensest period of the Cold War.

In the meantime, we have seen passive aggressive Chinese petulance aimed at our Navy and defence helicopters, putting the lives of servicemen in danger, yet Albo, Richard Marles and Penny Wong's reactions were weak, labelling them unprofessional. Unprofessional? Seriously! These situations call for much sterner, forceful language from our unprofessional government. We know why they are so pitiful. They are trying to curry favour with an increasingly aggressive Chinese regime that continues to threaten stability in our region, particularly around democratic Taiwan, and that does not like the AUKUS deal one bit.

The honourable member's final clause of her motion remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving. It should go further and remember those who died after the war because of their injuries, and there were tens of thousands.

That brings me to the exceptional work of The Headstone Project, a voluntary project dedicated to locating and ensuring that all World War I veterans who served overseas have their final resting place suitably marked with headstones. Since 2017, the headstone volunteers have identified, through detailed research, more than 100 graves dotted around the state's cemeteries that were unmarked for various reasons, including that families could not afford to pay for funerals because of tough economic times.

The Headstone Project has uncovered some amazing stories, but they are reliant on government support for this important work. It was extremely disappointing to learn this week that the veterans affairs minister, Joe Szakacs, told the project they were unlikely to get the funding they are seeking to identify around 50 graves each year over the next four years. It costs about \$1,500 per grave, which includes a headstone and a plaque. We are talking about a paltry \$75,000 a year, yet the government can find millions of dollars for their pet bread and circuses projects.

In a further blow, the federal Albanese government recently rejected their application for charity status, yet the federal veterans affairs minister approved charity status to a controversial pro-Palestinian Muslim organisation. It would only take a stroke of a pen by the minister to give The Headstone Project deductible gift recipient status so they could then seek donations from corporations and the public. I will be urging the federal minister to overturn that unfair decision, and I am looking forward to attending The Headstone Project's dedication of 16 graves in the Riverland later this month. I commend the motion.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (17:16): I rise to speak in support of this motion. In doing so, I would like to acknowledge the Hon. Laura Henderson for bringing this motion to the chamber, and I want to place on the record my support for the Hon. Heidi Girolamo's amendment to this motion.

Again, I rise to speak in support of this motion, not because I am a legatee with a husband who served in the Royal Australian Navy but because, like so many other people in South Australia,

I recognise that the sacrifice and hardship suffered by many before us is what underpins our free and democratic way of life today.

ANZAC Day was first celebrated on 25 April 1916 in honour of those who lost their lives in the Gallipoli campaign. Since those days, attendance at ANZAC events has ebbed and flowed. However, it is heartening that in current times, events such as the dawn service are attended by people of all ages willing to leave a warm bed in the early hours of the morning in cold and damp weather to pay their respects. It is wonderful to see parents bringing their children to teach them the importance of the event, not to glorify war but to offer thanks to those who gave their lives so that we can enjoy peace.

This year, as in many before, I attended the local dawn service in the town of Barmera. It did take a bit of special effort to get there this year, as I was in Mount Gambier the evening before. However, like so many others across the state, I recognise the significance of the day, and it really brings other things like the minor inconvenience of travel into perspective. The horrors of trench warfare at Gallipoli must have been unimaginable. The tradition of the gunfire breakfast that is still part of ANZAC Day today, where rum is added to the first coffee or cup of tea of the day, was how so many young soldiers coped with the fear of facing the enemy.

Attendance at a regional dawn service is very affirming. Often, you arrive in the dark, and the sight of people invisibly shuffling into place only gives a vague indication of the numbers present. Once the service is finished, you look around as the early morning light reveals the large numbers of locals who have come to pay their respects, nodding to each other in recognition. It is a wonderful gathering of the community and a testament to the significance of the day.

The modern iteration of ANZAC extends well beyond the Gallipoli conflict to honour all those who have served in more recent campaigns. Their commitment and courage in serving our country is recognised in current times, and veterans of Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and other campaigns receive our thanks and respect as part of the annual ANZAC Day events.

As the old saying goes, those who do not know their history are destined to repeat it. It is an unfortunate fact of life that conflicts have been a part of our history and we should recognise the courage of those who have and who continue to defend our enviable way of life. The observance of ANZAC Day is a memorial to those who answered the call and to those who continue to do so in the present day. I commend the motion to the chamber.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (17:20): I rise briefly in support of the honourable member's motion commemorating ANZAC Day. ANZAC Day is a very important day in the Australian calendar. We commemorate this special day as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by our brave Australian service men and women who fought in defence of our country. We pay our respects to the families of the ANZACs who tragically lost their lives during the capture of the Gallipoli Peninsula. We acknowledge the grief and sorrow that they have endured and we honour the memories of those who have been taken from us.

We take this opportunity on ANZAC Day to show our gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of our freedom. From the earliest days of our nation's history to the present day, countless Australians have put their lives on the line to protect our way of life. We acknowledge their bravery, their selflessness and their unwavering commitment to our nation's values and remember all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving.

Their sacrifices are not forgotten and we honour their memories by continuing to uphold the values of courage, sacrifice and service that they have embodied. On ANZAC Day, we come together to pay tribute to the spirit of those who have fought for us, the hardships they have endured and the sacrifices they have made. We pledge to continue to support and care for those who have served and continue to serve.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (17:21): I rise to support this motion, which calls on the council to acknowledge ANZAC Day, to pay its respects to the families of those ANZACs who have tragically lost their lives during the capture of the Gallipoli Peninsula, to show its gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of their country, and to remember all Australians who have been injured, killed or otherwise suffered whilst serving or, indeed, afterwards.

I am confident all members of this chamber would agree that ANZAC Day is one of the most important annual occasions for our nation. It provides an opportunity for all Australians to honour and pay tribute to the courage, sacrifice and unwavering spirit of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, who served their countries with valour and dedication during times of horrific events, especially during the First World War.

It is a sobering day on which we are reminded of the immense cost of the freedoms we are fortunate to have in Australia and the importance of protecting the values upon which our nation was founded. As we are all aware, ANZAC Day marks the anniversary of the ANZAC troops landing at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. The aim of this military campaign was to secure the Dardanelles Strait, which would have opened a new front against the central powers. However, the operation faced intense opposition from the Turkish forces that resulted in heavy casualties, with the campaign ultimately failing to achieve its objectives.

Nevertheless, the ANZACs demonstrated remarkable bravery and resolve amidst adversity as they fearlessly confronted immense challenges in an unfamiliar land. The events at Gallipoli encapsulate the tremendous spirit of the ANZACs: their courage, their endurance, their ingenuity, and mateship as it has come to be known, which still defines our national identity.

Members may not be aware that in 2008 I had the privilege of being part of a joint parliamentary delegation to Turkey and to the Anzac Cove peninsula. The delegation included the former Minister for Veterans' Affairs at the time, the Hon. Michael Atkinson, the member for Croydon. We had the opportunity to attend the dawn service at Anzac Cove whilst we were there—in fact, it was the main reason we were there.

I will never forget the early morning being so touching and memorable but also so freezing cold, something that is often not spoken about. In fact, it was so cold that Mick, as we called him (Michael, the member for Croydon), was kind enough to lend me his coat. I certainly needed it because I had fronted up in a light suit with a shirt and cotton socks on—quite silly—and I think at the time it would have been certainly in the minuses. I am not sure exactly what the temperature was but it was cold, I can assure you, and he was very kind to lend me a coat. I do not know who travels with a spare coat, and who actually carries it with them, but he did and he happened to have it with him that day, so I am very grateful for that.

We were joined by some 10,000 other individuals, mostly from Australia and New Zealand of course, and it was an incredibly moving experience that I will never forget. One could truly appreciate the significance of what occurred at that place over a century ago, and it is certainly something that I will never forget. In fact, when you are there you become very conscious of exactly how tall these cliffs are. You often hear about the cliffs and the tremendous challenges facing any attempted landing on that beach, and it becomes very apparent when you are there and when you can see it.

It is important to acknowledge that ANZAC Day is not just about remembering those who fought and fell at Gallipoli. It is also to pay tribute to all Australians who have served, and continue to serve, in our Defence Force. It is a particularly significant day for my family, given that my father was in the Australian Army for just over two decades, and served in Vietnam in 1968, seeing active combat during the infamous Battle of Coral, as well as a number of other times. He was awarded citations for gallantry and other actions, and for other battles that he fought in as well.

I am grateful he returned home physically unharmed, but of course many others had a different experience, including very close friends of my father. It is therefore only fitting that we, through this motion, pay homage to all Australians who lost their lives or were wounded during their time of service or, indeed, have suffered since they have returned home. I certainly support the motion.

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (17:26): I also thank the honourable member for bringing this motion to the chamber. ANZAC Day is an occasion of reflection and remembrance for those Australians and New Zealanders who have served, who have fought and who have not come home. Obviously, as has been highlighted, it started with the remembrance of Gallipoli, but is now in place to remember those who continue to represent our nation, both in New Zealand and Australia. It is a shared responsibility for our whole community to remember them, and to honour their sacrifices, as

well as the sacrifices made by their families. We must also continue to recognise the importance of passing on this responsibility to the next generation, and the next.

I would imagine that many members in this chamber across the political divide have someone in their family whose service gives them a sense of personal connection to ANZAC Day—as we have just heard from the Hon. Dennis Hood—whether it is someone who has served in the past or more recently. For me, such person is my late grandfather, Colin Herbert Stace, who served during World War II. After completing his initial posting on Australian soil, by the time his unit made landing in Borneo, he was a lieutenant. My grandfather almost never talked about his experiences there, finding the subject very painful to discuss with his family.

What I do know of his experience during the Borneo campaign, and it may not be a surprise to many in this chamber, are the sacrifices he made and of being diagnosed later in his life with PTSD. Not until he was 58 was this recognised. It was a mental health illness where he was unable to get that support, but he pushed through working. At 58, he decided he could no longer push through those barriers and, thankfully, the Department of Veterans' Affairs was able to acknowledge the extreme service that was made during his time in Borneo and he was given the veteran service pension, so he could go on to support his family.

Rather than this traumatic experience being the focus of today's speech, I will focus on his enduring positive impact, his lifelong relationships with his former fellow service colleagues. Among many who, like my grandfather, were fortunate enough to come home, the friendships forged amid the gruelling experiences they endured remained fundamentally important to them for the rest of their lives. Just about any soldier will tell you that when you are in combat you do not just fight for your country, you fight for your unit and you fight for your mates. You fight to keep yourself and each other alive and safe, so that you can come home to your family.

My grandfather held dear a particular group of five or six fellows who returned with him and who remained close. While not wanting to keep the memories of war alive, keeping their mateship alive was paramount. Religiously, every month they would all come together at their homes, taking hosting in turns. They gathered to talk, to share a drink and to remember. This ritual persisted until the last ones remaining were too frail to continue.

War has countless devastating impacts on the lives of soldiers and veterans. A silver lining for my grandfather was that these enduring friendships he maintained were a significant support and comfort for him. Every ANZAC Day, we should take the opportunity to reflect on the value of such friendships. Finding a place to be among people with whom you can share common experiences is so important. That is one of the reasons that the local RSLs are so valuable to our veterans and to our broader community.

One club in particular, which is home to a wonderful community of people and with which I feel fortunate to share a friendship—as I know the President does too—is the Payneham RSL, where president and secretary, Mark and Liam, do an excellent job in keeping their community strong and thriving. Established in 1938, the Payneham RSL is a volunteer-run organisation whose mission is to support veterans and local community.

Serving a diverse demographic that includes veterans and ex-service personnel, active service personnel, war widows' groups, community clubs, local small businesses, community members and their families, there is a caring and dedicated group of volunteers that make the Payneham RSL a great place to be and a great place to belong.

I began attending the dawn services and other events at the Payneham RSL a number of years ago. I am always delighted to see how many people come together to enjoy these wonderful services and great events, where they serve hundreds of meals to the community. The volunteers within the Payneham RSL community ensure that the club is always a welcoming place to gather and share stories.

Quality facilities are important to the club. There are five local community groups and organisations that also utilise this facility. The recently improved outdoor area is used regularly by local families and for children's birthday parties, bringing new people into their club space. For these

reasons especially, in maintaining and improving the hall and its outdoor facilities it is important that we keep these facilities up to date.

Earlier this year, I was pleased to work with the Malinauskas government and the now member for Dunstan to help deliver funding to support a much-needed upgrade of their outdated women's restroom facilities. This will improve accessibility, especially for women of all ages who attend events and participate in activities in and around the Payneham RSL.

On ANZAC Day this year, it was great to see such a strong attendance again at the Payneham dawn service. Over the past several years, I have witnessed the typical attendance numbers in the hundreds fall to much smaller crowds due to COVID. It was a true delight to see this year those crowds recover. From the cadets, to the school students, to the brass band, coming together to celebrate those who have served, those who did not come home, those who serve today and the families who have loved them is always something we are privileged to do.

ANZAC Day means many things to many people. Each person who holds the occasion sacred has their own personal relationship with the day, whether they are reflecting on their own service or the experience of knowing and loving someone who has served, or indeed whether they are a member of the community who is simply grateful for the sacrifices and services of those who have dedicated themselves to protecting and advancing our interests.

What brings us all together and connects us is to remember the sacrifices they have made, and we must continue to do this. Through the supreme trials of victory or defeat, men and women from around our nation have served and fought, and have sacrificed their lives or have survived against all the odds. Some, like my grandfather, gave the best years of their lives to the battlefield and came home forever changed. They have done all of this and more in a way that deserves our gratitude and our mindful reflection for as long as we can endure as a nation. That is why on ANZAC Day we will always gather to remember them. Lest we forget.

The Hon. L.A. HENDERSON (17:34): I would like to thank honourable members for their contributions and their support. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the Hon. Heidi Girolamo, the Hon. Frank Pangallo, the Hon. Nicola Centofanti, the Hon. Sarah Game, the Hon. Dennis Hood and the Hon. Emily Bourke for their contributions today in acknowledging the sacrifices and the bravery of our current and former service men and women.

We should never take for granted the sacrifices made by our current and former service men and women. Today, we acknowledge their sacrifice and their bravery. If I could please just share a quote from Winston Churchill in concluding my remarks that I think personifies this sentiment:

Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.

With that, I conclude my remarks.

Amendment carried; motion as amended carried.

Parliamentary Committees

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL ETHICAL GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter:

That the final report of the committee, entitled Amendments to the National Health and Medical Research Council Ethical Guidelines on the use of Assisted Reproductive Technology in Clinical Practice and Research, be noted.

(Continued from 1 May 2024.)

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (17:36): I rise to thank all honourable members who have made a contribution to this debate so far, that being the Hon. I.K. Hunter. I appreciate the immense trust and faith the council has put in my contribution thus far. I look forward to the motion passing.

Motion carried.

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: FUNDING FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS WITH
ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PRESCHOOLS PETITION**

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter:

That the final report of the committee, entitled 'Inquiry into petition No. 96 of 2021: funding for children and students with additional learning needs in public schools and preschools', be noted.

(Continued from 1 May 2024.)

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (17:36): Ditto.

Motion carried.

At 17:37 the council adjourned until Thursday 6 June 2024 at 14:15.

*Answers to Questions***BLYTH BATTERY**

In reply to **the Hon. F. PANGALLO** (22 February 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Energy and Mining advises he has been made aware of the concerns raised by Republicans Mike Gallagher and Marco Rubio in the United States Congress' Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, as referred to in the honourable member's question. The minister is also aware of Duke Energy's voluntary decision to disconnect Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Ltd (CATL) batteries at a US Marine camp despite there being no ban on their use in the United States.

The minister is also aware that on 7 December 2023, the publicly-traded CATL said the security allegations were false and misleading. CATL says its batteries are passive devices that do not collect, sell, or share data and cannot directly interact with the electrical grid or any other critical infrastructure. CATL's batteries have been supplied to other battery energy storage systems around the world including US projects in Texas and Nevada, and have passed rigorous safety and security reviews.

In South Australia, Neoen Australia's Blyth BESS is a 238.5 megawatt/477 megawatt hour battery under construction. The lithium ion cells at Blyth which have been provided by CATL are not intelligent. Their role is simply to store energy in chemical form. They do not possess their own software, nor do they participate in the systems controlling the asset.

From a regulatory perspective, prior to a utility-scale battery achieving grid registration it must pass operational readiness testing (including cybersecurity) by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

The Australian government requires that utility-scale batteries are subject to the requirements of the Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018 (the SOCI Act). The SOCI Act places positive cybersecurity obligations on entities in relation to risk management, the reporting of incidents to the Australian Cyber Security Centre and providing ownership and operational information to a register managed by the Australian government.

The South Australian Department for Energy and Mining is not aware of any of Australia's cyber safety institutions publicly raising concerns about the installation of foreign-sourced batteries, grid-scale or otherwise. CATL batteries have already been installed in Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory.

The South Australian government's assessment of battery storage projects is primarily focused on capacity, their contribution to security and reliability of the electrical system. Utility-scale BESS systems are licensed by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia.

CHILDREN IN STATE CARE

In reply to **the Hon. S.L. GAME** (5 March 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Child Protection has advised:

Our government has invested 372 million into the child protection system since forming government.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

In reply to **the Hon. S.L. GAME** (6 March 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Child Protection has advised:

Attendance at the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) Congress in Edinburgh and a busy schedule of meetings with academics, government officials, elected representatives, community members and non-government organisations in Scotland and England provided valuable learnings in contemporary practice that are being used to inform our reform of the child protection and family support system in South Australia.

At the congress, on one of the days I co-presented with Professor Leah Bromfield, Australian Centre for Child Protection, and expert group chair. The presentation was about international approaches to child protection and family support, and the need to reform and transform our current systems.

The timing of the travel was particularly opportune given the ongoing work of the Child Protection Expert Group, which is charged with working collaboratively on the development of a 20-year vision for child protection and family support in South Australia.

I met with extraordinary leaders of women's organisations who have advocated to lead the world in tackling coercive control, raising awareness about this insidious form of domestic violence. I met with those who had developed the legislation and those who sit on the taskforce to oversee its implementation.

I always welcome the opportunity to brief the member on the benefits for struggling children on being involved in recreation and sport and the intersection between these two portfolios.

NUCLEAR POWER

In reply to **the Hon. S.L. GAME** (7 March 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Energy and Mining advises that the Malinauskas government takes an agnostic and realistic approach to energy generation and considers that when the risks to public safety, the environment and the financial risk to South Australians can be appropriately managed, then nuclear power should be further investigated.

We are convinced of the need for more nuclear power in the world and committed to South Australia playing its part through the export of uranium.

In Australia, the legislative barriers to considering nuclear-powered generation were established by the Liberal-National Coalition, acting in tandem with the Greens.

The legislative prohibition against nuclear power in the commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 which was passed by the Howard Coalition government. This complemented the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998.

These acts prevent the construction or operation of nuclear facilities for power generation, as well as facilities for the fabrication of nuclear fuel, uranium enrichment and the reprocessing of nuclear waste.

Any change to those acts is a matter for the Australian government and federal parliament.

The former Weatherill government gave serious consideration to nuclear power, establishing the South Australian royal commission into the nuclear fuel cycle in 2015. The commission produced a final report published in 2016.

The commission considered nuclear energy in South Australia, outlining the risks and opportunities of further engagement in the nuclear fuel cycle, and how this could benefit South Australia, both financially and in job creation.

The report noted that nuclear power plants tend to have very high up-front capital costs compared to other forms of electricity generation and are significantly less economically viable where they are not operated at close to capacity.

The commission concluded that nuclear power would not be commercially viable in South Australia for the foreseeable future.

Nothing has been presented which would change this conclusion.

At a national level, we believe the public deserve to know about the considerable risks in pursuing nuclear and stalling investment in renewables.

The risks are man—but principally they are the time and the cost as well environmental safety and community acceptance.

Changing the legislative instruments would only be the first step in a long timeline before a nuclear plant could be operational.

There would also need to be:

- agreement from foreign nations on Australian access to technology for conversion and enrichment of uranium and/or manufacture, supply and handling of nuclear fuel.
- creation of an Australian regulatory and approvals framework,
- the training or assimilation of a skilled workforce,
- the attraction of capita—from private or public treasuries. Remembering that not one business has declared an appetite to invest in nuclear in Australia,
- selection of sites, technology and equipment providers,
- detailed engineering, environmental and life cycle plans, including the eventual storage of nuclear waste. This factor should be considered in the context that after decades of debate in Australia about low level waste storage, there is still no resolution
- final investment decision commitments,
- assessment and approval by authorities,
- construction, connection to electrical transmission (which is already at capacity) and commissioning.

Anyone who thinks these steps will be easy or quick are, quite frankly, delusional.

This timeline will sit in the context where the Australian Energy Market Operator expects all coal-fired power stations in the nation to have closed by the mid-2030s.

Right now, we are building a decarbonised electricity system of renewables firmed by fast-start gas-fired generators and short to long duration energy storage.

Imagine if we stop and wait for nuclear—but as has happened in the US, the UK and Europe nuclear fails to meet its delivery targets by years and years.

The nation will face power blackouts. Not just for a few hours, but ongoing, economy-wrecking lack of power for years.

In regard to the honourable member's focus on cost we should consider independent analysis in Australia and the experience overseas.

The GenCost 2023-24 consultation draft by the CSIRO provides an estimate of the levelised cost of electricity generation technologies. It estimated that costs of electricity in 2030 from a nuclear small modular reactor (SMR) would be \$212 to \$353 per megawatt hour (MWh). This compares to integrated renewables at \$69 to \$101 per MWh.

Of course, costs for small modular reactors are highly speculative because there are no such reactors in commercial operation outside communist states. One SMR of about 70MW operates from a barge in Russia and in China some small experimental reactors are operational and an SMR of 125MW is in construction.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates there are more than 70 SMR designs at various stages of development—and says costs per unit of energy generation are likely to be higher than the costs per unit of conventional large nuclear reactors.

In the United States, the most advanced SMR was cancelled before finalising approvals. NuScale Power scrapped its 462MW project, which was to be built at the Idaho National Laboratory by 2030.

In the United Kingdom, the most promising SMR project—being pursued by Rolls Royce—has reportedly been set back by cancellation of a plan to build a factory to produce the pressure vessels for reactors. It would now rely on another supplier for the vessels and intends only proceeding with a factory to build the balance of any SMR plants.

The most recent large reactor to come online was the Vogtle plant in Georgia in the United States which commenced operation in July 2023.

The Georgia plant was seven years late and approximately US\$17 billion over budget. The final budget is approximately US\$31 billion for a nuclear plant of 1100MW.

Similarly, a nuclear plant recently completed in Finland was billions of Euro over budget and about 12 years late in delivery.

In the United Kingdom, developers of the flagship new reactor—Hinkley Point C—announced in January this year (2024) that costs had nearly doubled from £18 billion to £31-34 billion (in 2015 terms in line with FID taken in 2016). And, target delivery had been pushed out from 2025 to sometime between 2029 and 2031.

It is worth noting that in Australia, the most recent merchant investment in thermal generation was here in Adelaide—the Barker Inlet Power Station.

AGL committed \$295 million in 2017 to Barker Inlet, and commissioned the 210MW plant just two years later.

In rough numbers—Australia could build 150 plants the size of Barker Inlet with combined capacity of 31,500MW for the same price as one Georgian-size nuclear plant.

Fast-start plants like Barker Inlet work in harmony with the variability of cheap renewables—filling in the gaps.

Nuclear would be pumping out expensive energy when it was not needed—and consumers would pay that bill.

Right now, we need to get on with the work of building more cheap renewable power to bring down prices and restore our sovereign capability.

WINE INDUSTRY

In reply to **the Hon. D.G.E. HOOD** (9 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised:

China's decision on 28 March to remove all tariffs on Australian wine into China is a fantastic result for South Australia's wine producers.

On 30 March, Premier Malinauskas announced a \$1.85 million China re-engagement support package for South Australian wine exporters, providing industry with exporter capability building, market activation and immersion, marketing activities in China, technical cooperation, and a Shanghai-based wine export adviser.

This government continues to play an active role supporting our state's re-engagement with China—in September last year Premier Malinauskas led a delegation of SA businesses to China.

I recently led a delegation to the China Food and Drink Fair in Chengdu and the Taste of South Australia Mission in Guangzhou, where I saw firsthand that Chinese consumers continue to have a high regard for our premium food, wine, and beverages.

While there remains softening global demand for wine, driven by changing consumer habits, I have every confidence South Australia's world-class wine producers will again find success in China's market.

WINE INDUSTRY

In reply to **the Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition)** (9 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised that 33 wine, food and beverage producers participated in trade engagements in Guangzhou and Chengdu from 13–18 March 2024, coinciding with the China Food and Drinks Fair in Chengdu.

RIVERLAND WINE INDUSTRY BLUEPRINT

In reply to **the Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition)** (9 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised:

Key South Australian wine industry stakeholders and representatives, including grapegrowers, winemakers, South Australian wine industry leaders, relevant local council representatives, rural support services and community members were engaged directly to discuss the current red wine oversupply with the working group, which visited the region on 27 March 2024.

Involvement of Riverland stakeholders was facilitated by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions following regular and ongoing engagement on issues facing the sector and were identified as being best placed to represent the diverse views across the industry.

QUORN WATER SUPPLY

In reply to **the Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (10 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): With regard to question 1:

The Minister for Climate, Environment and Water is responsible for water quality in regional towns. The Department for Environment and Water and regional landscape boards work together to manage our water resources.

SA Water's drinking water supplies, including Quorn, meet the human health requirements of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and the Safe Drinking Water Act. This is confirmed each quarter by SA Health.

It is acknowledged that some regional town drinking water supplies do not always meet customer expectations in terms of aesthetic qualities, including taste. This is most often due to the challenges associated with saline groundwater sources as the only viable water supply option in these areas.

SA Water has published its 'Long-term plan for improving drinking water aesthetics' which is publicly available on its website. Timing for improvements to drinking water quality for these three townships will be determined as part of SA Water's investment prioritisation in future planning cycles.

With regard to question 2:

I am advised that The Flinders Ranges Council recently met with SA Water which will now undertake a study to look into the Quorn water quality issues and options to address these issues.

GREYHOUND INDUSTRY REFORM INSPECTOR

In reply to **the Hon. T.A. FRANKS** (10 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing has advised:

On 8 May 2024, the government announced Mr Sal Perna AM as Greyhound Industry Reform Inspector. The government is considering legislation.

REGIONAL BOAT RAMPS

In reply to **the Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (11 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport advises:

The state government has made and continues to make substantial contributions to boat ramps across South Australia.

Section 90A of the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993 establishes the Facilities Fund, which is financed through levies on vessel registration. The fund is to be applied for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and improving facilities for use in connection with vessels.

The Facilities Fund generates approximately \$3.2 million per annum, with approximately \$2 million allocated for critical safety infrastructure including aids to navigation and marine radio. This leaves approximately \$1.2 million to be applied to boat ramp and other boating facilities.

As at February 29 2024, the fund had a cash balance of approximately \$10.2 million, with an uncommitted balance of \$3.8 million.

The South Australian Boating Facility Advisory Committee (SABFAC) is established in accordance with regulation 216 of the Harbors and Navigation Regulations 2009. The responsibility of SABFAC is to advise the minister on any variation of the amounts of the facilities levy and application of the Facilities Fund.

SABFAC receives and assesses applications for funding and makes a recommendation for expenditure from the Facilities Fund for boating projects to the minister for his consideration. The current Facilities Fund contribution is generally up to a maximum of 80 per cent of the estimated total project costs.

The following is a list of completed/acquitted regional boating projects, since 2020, funded through the Facilities Fund:

Boat Ramp	Council/DIT	Facilities Fund Contribution
Modifications to the Existing Black Point Boat Ramp	Yorke Peninsula Council	\$236k
Waikerie Edgar Bartlet Drive Boat Ramp	DC Loxton Waikerie	\$195k
Avoca Dell Reserve Bank Reclamation and Erosion Control	Rural City of Murray Bridge	\$450k
Encounter Bay Boat Ramp Additional Landing	City of Victor Harbor	\$35k
Dry Creek Boat Ramp	DC Grant	\$32k
Moore's Boat Ramp Redevelopment	DC Streaky Bay	\$85k
Dickson's Reserve Multi Purpose Floating Pontoon	The Coorong District Council	\$125k
Donavans Boat Ramp Upgrade	DC of Grant	\$65k
Franklin Harbor Marina (Cowell) Upgrade	DC of Franklin Harbor	\$1.50m
Smoky Bay Boat Ramp Pontoon Replacement	DC of Ceduna	\$113k
Emu Bay Boat Ramp Upgrade	Kangaroo Island Council	\$0.95m
Baudin Beach Boat Ramp	Kangaroo Island Council	\$262k (funding has not yet been released)

The following is a list of the regional boat ramp projects that are currently works in progress, with funding from the Facilities Fund:

Boat Ramp	Council/DIT	Facilities Fund Contribution
Lock 6 Boat Ramp	Renmark Paringa Council	\$125k
Mannum Waters Boat Ramp	Mid Murray Council	\$507k
Port Davis Boat Ramp Upgrade	Port Pirie Regional Council	\$1.23m
Marion Bay Boat Ramp Upgrade	Yorke Peninsula Council	\$3.04m
Whyalla Boat Ramp Renewal	City of Whyalla	\$1.70m

SOUTHERN CALAMARI BYCATCH

In reply to **the Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition)** (30 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised:

The setting of a total allowable catch (TACC) for the upcoming financial year, is independent of the outcomes of the review of the statewide allocation of southern calamari which was undertaken due to catch levels of the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery.

The Marine Scalefish Fishery Management Advisory Committee (MSFMAC) has recently met to prepare recommendations for the catch limits for southern calamari for 2024-25. These recommendations will be informed by the MSFMAC Science Sub Committee and the status of the stock, which is currently sustainable.

I note the TACC in recent years has been determined based on the previous five-year (2015-2019) average catch, as an interim measure until a new harvest strategy is developed. A new harvest strategy framework (HSF) for the marine scalefish fishery (MSF) is currently being developed for inclusion in a new management plan for the South Australian commercial marine scalefish fishery by 1 July 2025. A key objective of the draft HSF is to ensure target stocks are biologically sustainable.

PIRSA CONSULTANTS

In reply to **the Hon. S.L. GAME** (30 April 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised:

Response to question 1

In 2023-24, of the nine executed contracts valued over \$55,000 where a competitive procurement process was undertaken involving both South Australian (SA) and non-SA businesses, only two SA companies were unsuccessful in their tender bid.

Response to question 2

PIRSA has not overspent its budget during my time as minister.

Response to question 3

PIRSA follows the principle for value for money as set under the procurement and contract management framework, which aims to achieve the desired procurement outcome at the best possible price, based on a balanced judgement of both financial and non-financial factors relevant to the procurement activity. This is measured by the achievement of outcomes (ie. set KPI's within contracts) with no additional costs incurred.

CHINA TRADE MISSION

In reply to **the Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (2 May 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised:

The \$1.85 million China re-engagement support package was developed (and will be delivered) in partnership with the South Australian Wine Industry Association (SAWIA). Producer outcomes are therefore at the heart of the package. The purpose is to ensure that the South Australian wine sector is well prepared for re-entry into the Chinese market. Initiatives address changes in market conditions, entry strategies, consumer trends in China, and technical cooperation between South Australia and China.

The five pillars include:

- Two-way market activation and immersion—\$600,000 has been allocated to assist the South Australian wine sector's participation in key exhibitions such as China Food and Drinks Fair (CFDF), the China International Import Expo, and Vinexpo, incorporating business matching, masterclasses, exhibitions, market surveys, and understanding market trends. This project was launched at the spring session of China's biggest wine and spirits fair CFDF in Chengdu in March.
- Promotional marketing and communication campaigns—\$500,000 will be allocated for promotional activities in China, aiming to market premium South Australian wines and rebrand South Australia's image in China, thereby enhancing the recognition of South Australian wines.
- Wine export adviser—\$400,000 has been allocated to hire a wine export advisor, who has extensive knowledge and contacts within the Chinese wine industry to support market activation projects.
- Exporter capability building—\$100,000 allocated for the wine industry in South Australia to benefit from analyses of the latest market trends and regulatory consultations in China. The first round of capacity-building workshops was held in the producing regions in January and February 2024, offering wineries increased opportunities to engage with market experts.
- Technical cooperation—PIRSA is leading a program of technical cooperation that will include research, industry and regulatory exchange, with a focus on South Australia's sister state Shandong. \$250,000 has been allocated for: reciprocal visits to expand professional networks, identify trade opportunities

and showcase South Australia's wine expertise to visiting Chinese members of industry; supporting academic institutions to run exchange programs; market dynamics information/research.

These activities will build trust and goodwill between the wine industries in both countries and help support South Australia's position as a trade partner of choice in the competitive international market.

FRUIT FLY INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

In reply to **the Hon. F. PANGALLO** (2 May 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): I am advised: In the week of the Gather Round (1 to 7 April 2024) 1,976 kilograms of fruit fly host material was taken from travellers across the four quarantine stations (Pinnaroo, Oodla Wirra, Yamba and Ceduna) and at a random roadblock conducted at Bordertown.

I am further advised that in the week prior to Gather Round (25–31 March) the figures were 1578 kilograms of fruit fly host taken and 167 people reported. No random roadblock was conducted this week.

In the week following Gather Round (8–14 April) the figures were 1584 kilograms of fruit fly host material taken and 183 people reported. No random roadblock was conducted this week.

South Australia's fruit fly program is an important biosecurity measure to protect South Australia's \$1.3 billion horticultural industries vulnerable to fruit fly.

CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER

In reply to **the Hon. D.G.E. HOOD** (2 May 2024).

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries): The Premier has advised:

Printed advertising for the Cross Border Commissioner role was placed in regional newspaper, *The Border Watch*.