

PREMIER'S STATEMENT

Consideration

Resumed from 13 February on the following question —

That the Premier's Statement be noted.

MR T.J. HEALY (Southern River) [2.50 pm]: I look forward to making my contribution to the Premier's Statement. It has been a long time coming. I wrote my speech at the start of the year. It was the Chinese New Year when we first had this conversation, and I would like to extend a happy year of the rat to all the people in my community. The year of the rat has special significance to the members for Geraldton and North West Central. I wish all members very, very well.

Today I seek to provide updates on the ongoing delivery of major projects in my electorate of Southern River. I am very proud that we have kept our promises in our community. We have built all the things that we said we would and we did all the things we said we would do. I am very proud of what Mark McGowan and our government have done to look after the people of Canning Vale, Gosnells, Huntingdale and Southern River, and of course Western Australia. Today I will talk about some of our local wins and milestones. I also want to thank the student leaders of the schools in my electorate. I thank my local community for all their efforts through COVID-19, which is continuing. I certainly thank them for their efforts during that peak period of craziness earlier in the year. I thank everyone in Canning Vale, Gosnells, Huntingdale and Southern River for everything they did to keep us all healthy and safe—the educators and students of all the schools, families, cleaners, nurses, health workers and retail champions—during COVID. Of course, I could not not thank Mark McGowan and Roger Cook for what they did. We will do our best to keep WA strong. To my community, those who have lost their jobs: we will do our best to get you back to work as soon as we can.

The Premier's Statement was delivered in this chamber before the COVID peak hit us. One of the statements he made is certainly true. It remains true during the COVID period and it remains true during the recovery. The Premier stated —

... a path where WA jobs are everyone's number one priority; a path where local content and local employment are key because "WA made" means quality; a path where education and training is valued because it unlocks so many opportunities; and a path where our health system is sustainable and patients are put first.

I would like to make a brief comment about racial tensions and incidents that have occurred within our community. I make this statement to my community with regards to Black Lives Matter and a number of other matters. I am honoured to be your member of Parliament. It often took me some time to find the words to say but it is certainly true in our community, unfortunately, that historically, Aboriginal people die in custody more often in Australia than non-Aboriginal people. I believe it is true that Australians with darker skin colours feel that they are treated differently from Australians with lighter skin colours in shops and around the community. More African-American people are in custody in the United States than non-African-American people. That does not mean that all police or prison officers are bad. It does mean that there is more work for us to do. I know that many WA police officers are saddened by what is happening and support change. It is a good thing if you think the current situation needs to change.

If you are listening to my speech at home or you are reading it, and you are unsure why so many people are talking about things like this, I ask you to please ask a family member or friend from an Aboriginal family or from a culturally and linguistically diverse background how they feel about this. Have that conversation. If you do not know someone, you can call me and I will connect you with someone. My family is deeply affected by what is happening overseas and in Australia. My family, like all Australian families, is a multicultural family with a variety of skin colours and languages. I reach out to everyone to move together on this journey and to think what we can all do differently so that black deaths in custody will be as foreign a concept to the next generation as the concept of the illegality of interracial marriage is to the current generation, which was Australian law until only a few decades ago, for example. Again, if you live in Canning Vale, Gosnells, Huntingdale or Southern River and surrounds or WA or around the world, I look forward to working with you to move forward.

I will now move to some of the exciting things that are happening in Southern River. Members will know that we delivered on our promise to start building the Canning Vale train line in my community, something that was promised multiple times by the previous government and never delivered on, which I guess is the earmark of a number of train projects. Members would know that in September 2019, geotechnical works began on the Thornlie-Cockburn Link—the two Canning Vale train stations at Nicholson Road and Ranford Road, extending from the Thornlie line all the way through to Cockburn. A contract was signed in December 2019. NEWest Alliance, a great local company, along with the Downer Group and CPB Contractors, was awarded that contract and has been doing some great works preparing the shifting of the sand and trees to make sure that when the pipeline needs to be shifted, it is

ready and there are no earthworks. It is absolutely fantastic. It is great to see the preparations for the widening of the Karel Avenue bridge. It is also great to see the Denny Avenue contracts awarded.

Works commenced in September 2019. We invited a couple of hundred people to the Nicholson Road site. We invited people from all the local schools in the area—student councillors, P&C presidents, board chairs, community leaders and student councillors. I baked a cake in the shape of the three new train stations. We gave everyone a piece of cake, a commemorative piece of the track and a shovel, and a couple of hundred of us all dug the train line together. It was a wonderful event.

It is fantastic that we are dedicating the building of this train line, especially during this period of COVID, to ensuring that local people and local trades get local jobs, as promised. We are building railcars here in WA for the first time in a generation, which should have been done in the first place, so that your family and my family get the work out of these projects. It has been absolutely brilliant.

In February 2020, the Premier, Hon Sue Ellery and I opened one of those biggest promises in my electorate—the \$8.4 million sports hall at Southern River College, the school at which I used to teach. We named it the Pat Morris Pavilion on my recommendation, which was very much agreed upon by everyone in the community. For those who do not know, Pat Morris is an exceptional role model for the young people of Gosnells. She mentored me. It was her idea that I run for council in the first place. She often came to my class. She was also a chair of the school board at Southern River College. I often invited her to my class. She spoke and guided my students in career classes and other classes. Pat Morris spent many decades as an elected member. She was Gosnells' first female mayor, and was re-elected for multiple terms. She was the first woman awarded the WA local government medal—a true titan, and a true champion of Gosnells. She is involved in almost every school and community group, including girl guides, cricket, football, schools, our board, other boards, and history and heritage committees. The new sports hall that was built, promised and delivered at Southern River College is amazing. If you drive past it at night, it is literally a beacon of light. The lights around it light up Gosnells. That is one thing that I certainly reflect upon with this brand-new fantastic facility—it is a beacon of light. When Gotham City needs help, it lights the bat signal. By naming this after Pat Morris, in Gosnells they will light the Pat signal to guide their future.

Funding of \$150 000 went to the Gosnells District Cricket Club. We opened the indoor facility earlier this year, in February or March. The Gosnells District Cricket Club built new indoor cricket nets for young cricketers. Now, more young people can play cricket and sport at Sutherlands Park. They can play day or night, rain or shine, throughout the year. There are more playing grounds. I congratulate Ross Leipold, Bruce Bussanich, Di Meakins, the Gosnells council and all those members of the club who contributed—the membership, the players and the families. Members will probably be aware that we had a community opening of this facility. We had a great evening, where all the members came and had a barbecue meal. I thank my office again for this: we actually created the biggest ribbon that I have ever seen. It was 100 metres of blue and yellow ribbon. It went round the entire length of the indoor cricket club. We collected a hundred-odd pairs of scissors and every member of the club who was there that night cut the ribbon. We all did that together, taking ownership of that club. I congratulate every member.

It is great to see the Thornlie TAFE jobs and skills centre running well. I again commend the government for its discounted TAFE fees. One reason I ran for office was the over 500 per cent increase in TAFE fees. It was brilliant to see that discount.

We broke ground on the second primary school in my electorate, as promised, earlier this year. The Premier came with Hon Sue Ellery. That was the second of the two primary schools. We built Southern Grove Primary School, which opened in 2019. The planning name for this school is Southern River Primary School, and it is in the Riverbank estate. I again baked a cake, which people told me was lovely—or so-so. The Premier came. We invited the community of Southern River. Dozens of people came. There was a little baby there, who is looking to enrol when the kindy opens. There was also a toddler, who will be one of the foundation students next year. I want to say congratulations to our new principal, Chris Burgess, who has been appointed at this school.

The Huntingdale Primary School nature playground is still popular. This week, \$200 000 of additional air conditioning has been placed in this school. We now, of course, need to build block B. I say congratulations to Scott Olney and the hardworking Huntingdale Primary School Parents and Citizens Association.

The Ashburton Drive Primary School science lab is going well. The maintenance blitz at our schools is providing millions of dollars across my community.

Our bus stop campaigns are having some wins, such as in Harry Street in Gosnells and Southern River Road in Riverbank. These things are doing fantastically.

We have had extended hours at the Canning Vale Police Station. I thank all the police officers in my community.

We have had a number of wins in my community. We have had footpath upgrades and all sorts of local wins. I want to talk about a number of things that we have been able to do as a community to achieve things with local,

federal and state departments. I say to my community that if they need help, they should never hesitate to call. If they need help with any government agency—local, state or federal—on any local issue, just give us a call. Just in the last 12 months, we have had wins in getting the kitchen works commissioner to get builders to do the right thing. We have had shade sail repairs at local parks. We have helped build pathways. Laneway barriers have been installed. Security cameras have been placed and street lights fixed at local parks. We have helped sort out ambulance bills. We have helped have kiss ‘n’ drive areas painted and constructed. We have helped to stop trucks from going down some of our minor routes and discussed with the owners of the companies how we can best find that balance. We have helped people with Homeswest. We have helped get the traffic lights working better for pedestrians at the corner of Ranford Road and Wright Road in Southern River. There is the brand-new post office at the Vale. We have helped get the pharmacy a lotto agency in Huntingdale. I again thank the council and our federal members for all their work every day. To my community I say: call me, email me, pop in for a chat. If you think that we can help, my office and I will always do the best that we can to help.

I doorknock every week, and I am very proud to do that. Last year, I doorknocked well over 4 000 homes. There has been a bit of a break during the COVID-19 period, when no-one was able to doorknock for a couple of months, but I am now out every weekend to talk to my constituents and my community and to hear what they have to say. To make sure that my electors get a chance to tell me about the issues that are important to them, it is important that I doorknock. I also convey to them what I do.

I congratulate the Huntingdale Facebook group, Huntingdale Community Chat, which is celebrating five years this year. It was set up in January 2015. I congratulate the administrators of that site, Jenn Clune, Natasha Bakranich, Adrian Lord, Jasmine Webber and David Nye. It is a community page where people can ask questions, share local information and keep in touch with locals. The page brings together our community, and it certainly does that in Huntingdale. It builds a strong and supportive community. It is about when neighbours’ fences blow down, when the community bands together to help others. It informs others about local small businesses and missing dogs and cats. It is a place to share the history of our suburb, community forums, local government and state government information, and employment and crime information. I again say thank you to those who run our local Facebook chat page—congratulations to all those people.

I would also like to say congratulations to Monkey Bars Play and Learn Centre in Canning Vale, which is a fantastic facility that has been there for 10 years and has looked after many, many children.

[Member’s time extended.]

Mr T.J. HEALY: I would now like to congratulate a number of the elected student councillors from my community and thank them for their work. This has been a year like no other. For those student councillors who have had to operate from home amid the changing circumstances in primary and high schools, I say congratulations and thank you. It has been great to be able to meet with quite a few of them. We had a wonderful Zoom forum with Hon Sue Ellery recently. It was a chance for student leaders to talk with us via Zoom. About 50 people and their families logged on. I will keep meeting with them. We will invite them in for lunch. We will try to get out to their schools. I am looking forward to graduation ceremonies, if we can do them this year. I again say thank you to those student councillors who have put themselves forward. It is, of course, an honour to represent your community, be it as either a state member or a local student member. I cannot do my job well unless I hear from my youth elected members.

At Ashburton Drive Primary School, I would like to say congratulations for your election and thank you for your service to EJ Bongtiwon, Summer Brinkworth, Alyssa Knott, Western Russell, Tia Papas, Arie Pearson, Juliet Viramai and Alexis Tadeo. Congratulations to our Ashburton Drive student councillors for all the work that you have done and will continue to do this year.

At Bletchley Park Primary School, I would like to say congratulations and thank you to Jeeva Liju, our head boy; Priyanshi Trivedi, our head girl; and our councillors Aleeza Bajwa, Sean Kennedy, Beatrix Keith-Magee, Shriya Bhat, Rishi Das and Sanjay Jojo. I also thank our faction captains at Bletchley Park: for Bradman, Oliver Mortensen and Taliah Quinn; for Farmer, Tai Wilson and Angelina Gregoire; for Fraser, Alex Gillet and Rylee North; and for Strickland, Adiel Chidukwani and Ashlee Barry.

At Caladenia Primary School, I would like to say congratulations to our student leadership. Of course, this school carries the mantle and responsibility of being WA Primary School of the Year. I believe that because there will be no education awards this year, Caladenia will hopefully continue its reign for two years. I want to say congratulations to the student councillors at Caladenia Primary School—Ella Broadley, our head girl, and Lewis Conick, our head boy; our student executive, Elysha Spencer, Jorja Sartori, Anuju Withanarachchi, Claudia Forrester, Siena Barr, Flynn Reid, Tyler Wilson, Luke Robinson, Kanye Cho, Dihein Samarasinghe; and our faction captains, Madison Phillips, Alex Crofts, Kushi Kattekola, Amber Wood, Isaia Philips, Luke Liu, Isabella Busuttill, Kade Carthew, Makayla Dunn, Raenah Jain, Lucas Werder, Albie Elson, Krina Vaidhya, Taj Needle, Kayla Troy, Ingrid Priscott, Stanley Rivers, Tharul Ranamuka, Jayda McNally, Abiyie Riakgol, Darlene Haniel, Vivian Nwokeiwu, Riley Walker and Zane Sutherland.

I would also like to congratulate Campbell Primary School student councillors for all the work they have done on our student leadership. I thank Hashini, Mya, Lakshmi, Keona, Roylisa, Ashlen, Janice, Hazelle, Eloise, Mia, Eunice, Stany, Rithvik, Ayush, Dexter, Caleb, Tejas, Oliver, Jayden and Justine.

At Canning Vale College I would like to congratulate our college captains and say thank you to Holly Peberdy and Caleb Burah, and our councillors Hallee Pileggi, Zoe Hart, Noor Radiy, Josh Carriera, Lauchlan Ross, Thomas Burns and Max Dickson.

At Excelsior Primary School I would like to say congratulations and thank you to the student councillors Baneen Al Absawi, Safwan Anwar, Angela Dong, Daniel Eisenmann, Grisha Jindal, Zali Luxa, Ahmad Qalandari and Maddison Watts. In Delphinus faction I thank faction captains, Phoebe Halton and Adam Marlow; and vice captains, Shakila Imtiaz and Damon Yorke. In Phoenix faction I thank faction captains, Emma Chambers and James Martin; and vice captains Krystal Creighton and Corbin Boylson. In Pegasus faction I thank faction captains, Kiara Liddelow and Joshua Stewart; and vice captains, LeeLee Cornwall and Levi Johnson. In Lacerta faction I thank faction captains, Emilie Fay and Mohammed Bazzi; and vice captains, Milena Dickinson and Ethan Walsh.

I turn to Harrisdale Senior High School. I acknowledge the fantastic leadership of our student leaders Rachel Watson, Misri Patel, Kalei Parianen, Yoshna Naidoo, Shubham Joshi, Byron Davies, Josh Sutherland, Bailey Hart, Rhea Monga, Elizabeth Cheav, Natalie Chelvan and Alex Coe.

At Huntingdale primary school I want to say congratulations and thank you to the incredible student leaders Harry Gilling, Taj Rowe, Cooper Robinson, Benjamin Ward, Caitlin Kelly, Rebecca Kremer, Imogen Hornblow and Koline Tang. I congratulate you for being part of the GRIP Leadership Conference in March. It was a wonderful opportunity for other leaders and other primary schools. Your camp in March was also very well worked hard for. At Southern River College, I would like to say congratulations to our head boy, Connor Nicol; head girl, Alexia Lozada; and deputies, Katarina French, Jenny Jackson and JJ Cordova.

At St Emilie's Catholic Primary School, I would like to say congratulations to all year 6 students. At St Emilie's they are all considered student leaders. I say thank you to all of you for the work that you do in representing your community and doing the best that you can in year 6 through your school.

At St Munchin's Catholic Primary School, I would like to say congratulations to all year 6 students again, because all year 6 students at St Munchin's are considered leaders and councillors. There are teams of students who organise different aspects of school life and I thank you to the teams for school pride, pastoral care, environment, tech, the arts and all of our sports captains.

At Providence Christian College, I would like to say thank you for your service and congratulations to Ben Freeman, our head boy, and Amy Warren, our head girl. I say thank you to our prefects Jill Dutt, Avnish Mohabeer, Katie Mushaurwa, Jackson Halse, Sarah Pfizner, Kalani Kandegama, Misty Ross, Caleb McDonald, Lynelle Taylor, Llain McNamara, Mataeo van Niekerk and Aleisha Meiselbach.

At Wirrabirra Primary School, I would like to say thank you to Dusty Kehoe, our head girl, and Haashir Ahmad, our head boy. I say thank you to our year 6 councillors, Charlie O'Farrell, Keira Milloy, Jac Rodgers and Sam Jones; our year 5 councillors, Tahnee Cadman, Dylan Jong, Sanday Kur and Junior Tomda; our year 4 councillors, Raven Javier, Ishaan Madampath; and year 3 councillors, Angad Singh and Amirtha Thirupathi.

At Southern Grove Primary School, I would like to say congratulations to our student councillors and also our faction captions. I thank in Banksia faction, Ethan and Vibha; in Hovea-Blue faction, Therese and Yusuf; in Acacia faction, Maikayla and Gokul; and in Waratah faction, Asa and Vibhor. Your responsibilities in which you have all done so well are encouraging and supporting your team, modelling good sportsmanship, maintaining the sports shed and making sure that everyone is well looked after.

I would also like to make a quick mention of three of the canteen ladies at Southern River College who stepped down recently after decades of service. Not only did they look after me when I was a teacher at Southern River College, but they also received special awards of excellence recently. They are constituents of mine and also very, very appreciated workers of the P&C at Southern River College. First of all, to Terry O'Connell, we say thank you. She dedicated herself to the Southern River College canteen for 25 years. Commencing as a canteen helper and then going on to be canteen manager, Terry was welcoming to staff and students and was always a friendly face behind the counter. Terry has lent a helping hand with various school events, end-of-year fairs and various fundraising events. She has also happily assisted with catering for special events such as Beacon and parents' nights. Thank you, Terry, for your dedication, talent and determination in running our school canteen. We could not have done it without you. I thank Terrie Walshe, who has been at Southern River College for over 10 years. In this time, Terrie has been an integral part of the canteen and a member of Southern River College. We sincerely thank you for the years of reliable service you have given us in our canteen. I also thank Faye Munday in our school canteen. Faye has given her time and assistance to the Southern River College canteen for a number of years. She was always willing to lend a hand and assist students and staff where she could.

Faye rose to the challenge and took on extra responsibilities when others were unable to do so. Thank you for your time and effort; it is truly appreciated. These people were awarded excellence awards at Southern River College, and we say thank you to you all for your service. We really appreciate all the things you do. I know that in the Gosnells and Southern River communities there are hundreds of students you have fed and looked after. Thank you so much.

I would also like to acknowledge some other people. I am told that there are some algorithms by which I can identify and say thank you to my top 20 Facebook followers. I have just over 2 500 Facebook followers and these are my top-20 fans. I want to say thank you through you, Acting Speaker, of course. These are the people who have shared and liked my posts. I hope I am not harassing them. I hope we are not making things too boring. We will always try to make it exciting. I would like to say thank you to these 20 people. I am not saying that everyone else is not appreciated, but I look forward to having an opportunity to be elected next year when I can work out and announce the next top 20. I would like to say thank you to these top 20 fans of my Facebook page: Boki Chakulunta, Charmaine Patcher, Liz Oudin, Caris Morris, Pharaoh Murale, Marilyn Husk, Tristelle Thompson, Judith Nunn, Sue Dimitrijevic, Amanda Daintith, Kim Prescott Brown, Marithe Scholtz, Paula Ward, Neil Menezes and Dara Thakkar. Thank you for your support, and, again, I will try to make things as interesting as I can.

As I start drawing to the end of my speech, I say that I have always got on very well with members from the Liberal Party and the Nationals WA. I am not a very political person. I am a Labor person of course, but I think we can all find good ways to make the community better. There are different political philosophies, but they are usually about trying to make the world better on a different path. However, I know that people face a choice. The election next year is still a while off. My community has expressed this. They are concerned about where the Liberal Party is going. This group of Liberal Party members is not a normal group—not true Liberals, I suppose. Before the change in policy, which I appreciate, the Liberal Party worked with Clive Palmer to try to open our hard border. It still wants to make Roe Highway a tollway. It still wants to reduce the hours of our Canning Vale Police Station. It still wants to stop our train line from being built. Members of my community have a chance in March next year to say where they feel the community should go in those matters, and I am always happy to have that conversation.

Again, I thank my electorate for the honour of representing it. Mark McGowan and I will work hard for it every day. We are not perfect, but of course we will work hard and keep our promises. We always have and we always will. We promise to build opportunities for young people, be that through primary schools, high schools, universities, TAFE or trades. We will always work hard to ensure that people keep their jobs. If people have lost their jobs, we will work hard to support this economy and local jobs to get them the best chance of getting that job back or the skills they need for the next one. That is what Labor governments do and that is what we will do. We will always stand up and look after Western Australians first. That is why I stand with Mark McGowan. My neighbours in Canning Vale, Gosnells, Huntingdale and Southern River support what we are doing. As I said, Mark McGowan will always stand with us.

MR S.A. MILLMAN (Mount Lawley) [3.20 pm]: Although it gives me great pleasure to speak today in response to the Premier's Statement, I cannot do so without thinking about the anxiety so many people in our community feel about the future. The world is transformed by pandemic and economic contagion. We here in Western Australia are safer than most, but we are not immune to the effects of a second wave. We are fortunate indeed to have Premier Mark McGowan's WA recovery plan being rolled out by arguably the most capable and experienced cabinet in modern Western Australian history.

Walking or riding with my boys to school in the morning, I am reminded daily of the importance of getting more cars off our roads. It seems that every day congestion on our neighbourhood roads causes problems for our community. People from Ellenbrook across to Yanchep make hundreds of thousands of journeys every week to, from or through the CBD travelling through our neighbourhoods in Yokine, Dianella and Mt Lawley. Maybe that is why my community places such a high value on public transport.

Community engagement surveys and forums I held in Yokine and Dianella saw members across the electorate of Mt Lawley nominate public transport as one of the top five reasons they love living in our community. That is why I am glad to be a member of a government that takes public transport seriously: our community simply cannot afford a government that is not committed to public transport. Whether it is investment in new buses, planning for the introduction of light rail, or our investment in Metronet, Western Australians know Labor can be trusted to invest in public transport. By building Metronet and reducing car use in the northern and eastern suburbs, we will reduce pressure on our local streets. Congestion-busting road investment, improving traffic flow at intersections such as Wanneroo Road, Green Street and Walcott Street will lower the attractiveness of rat-running and make our local streets safer.

Metronet is a massive project, and we have only just begun. It is a major project that is about generating local jobs and manufacturing, as much as it is about reducing congestion and pollution. We are seeing more transport jobs, more manufacturing jobs, and as many WA jobs in infrastructure construction as possible. Meanwhile, just to the north of the electorate of Mt Lawley in Malaga, a partnership between Volvo Australia and WA company Volgren will see Volgren fit-out the next generation of 900 new Transperth buses. These will be the buses that work the immensely popular 950 route along Beaufort Street through Mt Lawley, the 960 route through Dianella, the 970 route along Wanneroo Road in Yokine and the plethora of other routes that serve our community. Public transport is about more than just reducing congestion. It is about more than reducing our impact on our unique environment. A well-funded, interconnected public transport network helps deliver a fairer society because participation in communities spread across such a wide metropolitan area depends on accessible transportation. It is in all of our interests to encourage Western Australians to participate in and engage with the wonderful community organisations, services and events that we have on offer across Perth. People in the electorate of Mt Lawley know—indeed, all Western Australians know—that when it comes to fairness, when it comes to accessibility and the importance of public transport, they can depend on the McGowan Labor government.

As a kid, my dad used to take my brother and me surfing. We would drive down dirt tracks, windows up to avoid getting whacked by the scrub, over the dunes and into the ocean air. Those trips were more than just dad time. Like the bush camps I was lucky to enjoy through school, or the drives through the forest to the coast for our summer holidays, these were the experiences that sparked my love for the environment. I remember thinking when Geoff Gallop announced the end of logging in old-growth forests 20 years ago, that was one of the reasons we need Labor governments. And here we are again, with a Labor government making vital decisions protecting Western Australia's environment—increasing the size of the conservation estate by 20 per cent; investing in Aboriginal ranger programs to create green jobs and empower those Western Australians who best know how to manage our national parks and nature reserves; banning single-use plastic bags and bringing recycling jobs to WA through the Containers for Change container deposit scheme.

I know that people in the electorate of Mt Lawley are vitally interested in both the Western Australian environment generally and our local environment in particular. Fifty-eight per cent of respondents to a survey I conducted in late 2019 and early 2020 identified our open green spaces as a reason they love living in our community. One-third of respondents identified tree and vegetation management as an issue of concern. Those responses put these issues in the top five of their respective categories. When we add to this that 21 per cent identified pollution and waste management as an issue of concern, we can see that the people of the electorate of Mt Lawley are both environmentally conscious and environmentally active.

The McGowan government is driving a WA recovery plan and creating green jobs through a huge investment in renewable power generation. Labor's green jobs plan includes a significant native vegetation rehabilitation scheme. The McGowan government is, for the first time for any WA government, launching a feasibility study into producing wind turbine components locally. The Premier, together with the Minister for Regional Development, has just announced that the McGowan government will bring forward the Western Australian renewable hydrogen strategy targets by a decade, investing in projects and studies to develop hydrogen supply, meeting growing demand for this clean fuel, and creating jobs. New infrastructure, investment in supporting Western Australian innovators developing new technologies, and solar panels across state government assets will continue our journey towards carbon neutrality. I am particularly excited by the prospect of transforming schools into virtual power plants with solar panels and commercial batteries. In the electorate of Mt Lawley, a community battery has already been installed in Knight Avenue in Yokine. The City of Stirling is the fifth largest solar energy-producing local government in WA with solar panels fitted to the rooftops of over 18 000 homes. Across WA, around one in three rooftops has solar panels. By securing the Western Power community battery, the door is opened for residents to trial battery storage technology as part of Synergy and Western Power's Australian-first PowerBank trial. Keeping utilities like Western Power in state hands means that the changes made by the McGowan government can be activated quickly at a local level to deliver real benefits and opportunities for Western Australians. This is a government that knows that it is both economically responsible and inherently valuable to protect our unique environment, to reduce our footprint in our local communities, and to tread as lightly as possible as we strive to ensure a healthy and meaningful life for every Western Australian.

Like so many of my neighbours, my family has been affected by the pandemic. We are, thank God, all still here. My heart goes out to everyone who has lost a loved one to COVID-19, particularly those who were unable to share time with a loved one before they passed away due to the restrictions we have all lived with over the past months. Family and friends live in Victoria. Not a day goes by that I am not anxious for their wellbeing, that I do not fret that we have not been able to visit them, or wonder when we may see them again. Even here, like so many Western Australians, we have had to limit our contact with my wife's parents. Our boys struggle to understand why. It is a deeply troubling time. We are fortunate to have Premier Mark McGowan and his deputy and health minister Roger Cook—indeed, the entire cabinet—to lead us through this period. I am honoured to be part of Mark McGowan's team and humbled by the support of the community that elected me to this place.

The cabinet has brought to this crisis the same considered and compassionate approach that has defined this government's management of our health system. I saw firsthand, as part of the Public Accounts Committee inquiry into the Perth Children's Hospital, just how important it is that we have a government, like this one, that values public health. We can all be confident that whether it is the refurbishment and expansion of Osborne Park Hospital or the significant investment the McGowan government has made into Royal Perth Hospital, this is a government that is ensuring our health system puts patients first. Our community has benefited from the urgent care clinics established at GP on Beaufort and Third Avenue Surgery, reducing pressure on our emergency departments.

The Minister for Health recently announced that planning will commence on developing a WA electronic medical record system to improve safety, efficiency and patient experience. I chaired the Expert Panel on Advance Health Directives in 2019 at the request of the Attorney General. We found that clinicians were sometimes unable to locate an advance health directive at critical times because they were held in another hospital, or with the patient's GP. A secure, safe and efficient electronic medical record system will help change the way clinical care is provided in WA. Beyond the nuts and bolts of making sure our health system is working for patients even before the pandemic hit, this government demonstrated that it could be trusted on the big issues. I was honoured to serve on the committee that recommended the introduction of voluntary assisted dying for Western Australians. I know the laws we made for voluntary assisted dying are overwhelmingly supported by our community.

The minister recently announced additional funding for projects that will strengthen end-of-life care and implement the recommendations of both the committee that recommended the introduction of the legislation and the Expert Panel on Advance Health Directives. This government leads when it comes to the most sensitive of issues and it delivers the resources that are needed to appropriately respond to the needs of Western Australians. It is hard to believe that we had that debate and passed those laws just a year ago. What we have seen from the Premier, the Minister for Health and the cabinet in 2020 reinforces what the previous three years of that debate have shown; that is, that the McGowan Labor government has fostered a strong, resilient and well-funded public health system that puts patients first.

With two boys at the local school, I know that we must build a future that our children can look to with hope. Neither of my parents finished year 12 and I was the first in my family to graduate from university. My family's experience demonstrates the transformative benefit of our education system. It is the bedrock for building a hopeful future for today's children. Our community has been fortunate to have a Premier and, in Hon Sue Ellery, a Minister for Education and Training who so comprehensively understand the value and potential of our public education system. We have seen investment in early education across the electorate of Mount Lawley since the last election. Schools across our community shared in the maintenance, upgrades and improvements as part of the McGowan government's major maintenance blitz last summer. Yokine Primary School has a refurbished administration building. Sutherland Dianella Primary School has a science lab and Yokine Primary School will get one, too. Our teachers have more time for mentoring and coordination to improve the experience our children enjoy at school.

It was a fantastic feeling to join the Premier and education minister to turn the first sod for the new science labs, classrooms, mechatronic studio and engineering workshop at Mount Lawley Senior High School, knowing as I did that I have kept every single promise that I have made to my community when they chose to send me here in 2017. The designs for the redevelopment of John Forrest Secondary College were released in June and I cannot wait to join my good friends the members for Morley and Maylands in welcoming the first students to enjoy the new facilities in the months to come.

The WA recovery plan is building our schools. Current and future students in the electorate of Mount Lawley who attend Dianella Secondary College will be delighted with the announcement of a new performing arts centre. A large theatre space, stage, green room, foyer and additional storage space will provide a first-class training ground for budding performers. Meanwhile, students who cross Walcott Street to head to Kyilla Primary School will soon see construction start on a new classroom block, providing for growth in student numbers and replacing existing transportable classrooms. These important projects are the local expression of the McGowan Labor government's dedication to ensuring the strongest possible economic recovery from the pandemic across all WA schools. Public education always has been, and will always be, fundamentally about ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn about the world and their place in it. It is about sharing our resources to obtain a fairer and more just and equitable society. The McGowan Labor government's investment in our schools is about so much more than bricks and mortar; it is about fairness, and that is why I am grateful for the chance I have to support a government that is dedicated to public education in a way that Western Australians know is the hallmark of Labor governments throughout history.

I know firsthand the anxiety that families feel when their breadwinners are out of work; when I was young, that was my dad. My dad was a plasterer. My brother is a plasterer. It is a trade that has served our family well since my grandfather's days. But when dad lost his job in the 1990s, we lost our house. He had built us a home and it was gone. That is why I know how important it is that we implement Mark McGowan's WA recovery plan. We have made a good start, but it takes time for plans to take effect. I know the Premier's plan will not take too long to hit its straps.

Even before the announcement of the WA recovery plan, the McGowan government demonstrated its commitment to job creation. I was delighted to join the Premier, the Treasurer, Ben Wyatt and the Minister for Small Business, Paul Papalia, at Lot Six Zero in Yokine to announce increasing the payroll tax exemption. Once fully implemented, 1 000 WA businesses will no longer pay this tax, freeing up money they can use to employ more Western Australians. Our local community has seen the successful trial of the Small Business Friendly Approvals Project in 2019, which is now being rolled out to another 20 local government areas.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr S.A. MILLMAN: By rebuilding our TAFEs with \$167.3 million worth of capital works, Labor is delivering the largest investment in TAFE infrastructure in Western Australian history. Meanwhile, Labor is spending \$21 million to provide free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians. The government is advancing every single recommendation of the review of skills, training and workforce development. This is critical to ensuring our vocational training sector prepares Western Australians for the jobs of the future. More than 115 displaced apprentices and trainees have already returned to work through the apprenticeship and traineeship reengagement incentive, which commenced just a month and a half ago. The incentive is available until 30 June 2021 and helps apprentices and trainees who have been stood down to find a new employer using the out-of-contract register. The Minister for Education and Training has just launched a new work placement register that gives high school students the chance to get a placement in a government agency and gain real world experience in jobs relevant to their vocational training.

Under the WA recovery plan, we will see upgrades to state government assets such as train stations, police stations and fire stations, which is already boosting work for electricians, painters, plumbers, builders and carpenters across the state. This is in addition to the investment in jobs associated with the residential construction industry and support for homebuyers building new houses. It complements the social housing package and maintenance program supporting social housing, including those in remote Aboriginal communities.

Labor is also providing direct support and relief to small businesses and non-government organisations. This includes the COVID-19 grant from Lotterywest to local community radio station RTRFM in the electorate of Mount Lawley, which gave that invaluable organisation certainty in troubled times. The WA recovery plan has seen the McGowan Labor government commit to the construction of a Holocaust museum in Yokine.

The McGowan Labor government wants everyone to have the best possible education and training to gain employment. Labor wants all those who wish to work to be in work, but it also wants to ensure that all those who go to work come home safely at the end of every working day. I know from my days as a lawyer fighting for workers just how important it is to keep workers safe and look after them when they get injured on the job. That is why Labor introduced laws to improve Western Australia's health and safety regime and it is why it improved the state's workers' compensation scheme to better reflect the value we place on the pain and suffering that results from workplace injuries. It is also why Labor has criminalised industrial manslaughter to ensure that no-one is in any doubt about how serious workplace safety is to all Western Australians.

The Minister for Health and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health, Hon Alanna Clohesy, have just announced grant funding for Mates in Construction to help support mental health and suicide prevention for construction workers and their families. Mates operates a 24-hour support line for construction workers and their families in the building and construction industry, including at fly in, fly out sites across Western Australia.

Participation in our society requires each of us to enjoy a basic level of economic security and because participation by all Western Australians is good for all of us, it is incumbent on governments to help provide the fairest opportunity possible for each Western Australian to chart a course to that economic security. The McGowan Labor government has always had job creation at its core. People in my community know that when the going gets tough, Mark McGowan and his team get going. I am grateful to be part of that team, and I thank my community for their support, which gives me my get-up-and-go each day.

When I studied law at the University of Western Australia, I already knew that I wanted to fight for workers. I had seen the battles won by Slater and Gordon on the nightly news and as soon as I got an opportunity I went to work for that company. My first cases were in workers' compensation, whether it was the plant operator who broke his wrist moving grid mesh and who fought for recognition of the mental health consequences of his injury or the truck driver who was unfairly sacked for having an accident that was not his fault, I took on multinational companies for my clients and won. Being a good local member of Parliament requires a different kind of tenacity. As a new member of Parliament, I knew I had to actively seek out my community's stories if I wanted to be an effective representative. Even though I had lived in the community for so long, I knew that I had barely scratched the surface of understanding my neighbours' hopes and interests. That is why I spent so much time meeting them and listening to what is important to them. We have a dynamic community, and understanding its needs requires continuous engagement. I have spent the past few years getting more familiar with how to influence the machinery of government

on the community's behalf. If there is one thing that I have learnt about the motivations and values of my community, it is our abiding interest in fairness and justice.

Our community has an intimate relationship with the local and global history of Judaism. We know that religious and racial tolerance is central to a fair and just society. We know where bigotry leads. I am grateful to be part of a McGowan Labor government that has invested in the redevelopment of the Maccabi centre in Yokine. The redevelopment will include the construction of a brand-new, world-class Holocaust museum and education centre. The Holocaust has become a byword for the horrendous inhumanity that can result from racial hatred and religious bigotry. We remember the Shoah as a specific, but by no means the only, example of anti-Semitism that too often characterised the Jewish experience in Europe. Learning about the Shoah reminds us all of the threat of authoritarianism, the risk of dehumanisation and the terrible consequences that can flow when we give bigotry a free pass.

Australia has its own record of inhumanity, bigotry and dispossession. That is why the McGowan Labor government has made such important strides in recognising that history and in steering our state towards a shared future in which Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Western Australians can walk together with confidence. The government has established Aboriginal ranger programs in national parks from the Kimberley to the great southern, because the First Peoples' land management techniques have been honed over millennia. The McGowan government has renamed landmarks, such as the Wunaamin Miliwundi Ranges, recognising that Aboriginal heritage is as unique as our landscape. This is a government that believes that nothing can be done for Aboriginal Western Australians without Aboriginal Western Australians leading solutions, and applies this principle to the development of regional suicide prevention programs and child protection. Fairness and justice are intertwined.

I have, at every turn, stepped up to support Mark McGowan's justice agenda, implemented by Labor's Attorney General, John Quigley. Labor has ensured that victims of family and domestic violence are protected under the Residential Tenancies Act and provided that victims have better choices about their housing options. We have made it law that convicted serial killers and mass murderers cannot get parole. New family violence laws include the introduction of new criminal offences for suffocation and strangulation, as well as for persistent family violence, and we have empowered courts to issue serial family violence offender declarations, making it easier for courts to identify them and mitigate against the risk of reoffending. Labor has abolished laws imprisoning Western Australians for unpaid fines, which will lead to fewer Aboriginal Western Australians being imprisoned in our state. We expunged the criminal records of men convicted under archaic laws that criminalised homosexuality, and we have criminalised industrial manslaughter.

Governing fairly in the best interests of Western Australia requires making tough decisions about how to distribute limited resources. Delivering just outcomes demands a fine touch, whether it be literal justice in criminal proceedings, or more figuratively through utilising the levers that steer our economy. People in my community tell me at every opportunity that they want a government that makes these judgements fairly. The McGowan Labor government has demonstrated its commitment to fairness, and I know that I am not alone in my admiration for the Premier and the team that supports him. I also know that I am not the only one who has learnt a great deal about leadership since 2017. I am grateful that my community has invested its trust, time and patience in me. With my community's support, I look forward to returning on that investment in the years to come.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **Mrs M.H. Roberts (Minister for Police)**.