

Ms Cassandra Rowe; Mr Vincent Catania; Mr John McGrath; Mr Shane Love; Mr Barry Urban; Ms Sabine Winton; Mr Donald Punch; Mrs Robyn Clarke; Mr Stephen Price; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr David Templeman

SUPPLY BILL 2017

Second Reading

Resumed from 14 June.

MS C.M. ROWE (Belmont) [9.54 am]: I rise today to make a contribution to the debate on the Supply Bill 2017 and to make some additional remarks, to conclude my comments yesterday, about how some of our Labor government announcements will benefit people in my electorate of Belmont. I spoke yesterday about some of our great announcements during the election that are now being rolled out, including in relation to jobs and particularly around funding to education in my electorate. A total of \$7.48 million is going into local state schools. Every single state primary school in my electorate will receive funds, and \$7 million will go to building a state-of-the-art performing arts centre at Belmont City College, our only state high school in the electorate. I am really proud of Labor's investment in our local schools. It is really important.

I will make some brief remarks about the very important local jobs and local projects funding. It is not only providing local jobs, but also making important investments in my community, in particular in assisting our sporting clubs and community groups. It is really important that this supports the pillars of our communities, in particular sporting clubs and community groups, which are largely run by volunteers. I think it is really important to acknowledge that, because they do work very hard to keep these groups going. They really are the heart and soul of all communities.

I will note some of those commitments that we are making to groups across the electorate of Belmont. An amount of \$80 000 is going to the Belmont Bombers to provide additional lighting where they train at Forster Park in Cloverdale. This is something that the club is extremely excited about, particularly its president, Mike Brotherton, as it will mean that the club has a greater capacity to train in well-lit facilities. An amount of \$35 000 will go to the Belmont Cricket Club for extra lighting, new astroturf, cricket mitts and new scoreboards and extra storage facilities at Peet Park. An amount of \$31 000 will go to the Belmont Park Tennis Club. That is for resurfacing two of its hard courts and upgrading the men's toilets. There will be \$100 000 to upgrade the Hazelmere community hall. It is very run down and in dire need of an upgrade. That will be a great facility that can be enjoyed by the whole community. An amount of \$150 000 will be used to upgrade the South Guildford footbridge, which links South Guildford to Guildford. At the moment, it floods in winter so it is absolutely inaccessible during winter months. This upgrade will mean that it is fully accessible all year round, which is welcomed by many of the locals at South Guildford.

An amount of \$10 000 will go to Belmont Community Gardens to allow it to upgrade and continue to build its garden beds. This great organisation is run by volunteers and brings the community together in open space in our area in Rivervale. An amount of \$20 000 will go to the Belmont Men's Shed. That funding commitment will mean that it has sufficient equipment required so that everyone can participate in the activities down there at the Men's Shed. We are giving \$50 000 to a facility to build a barbecue at Selby Park in Redcliffe. I think that will activate that park and it will be a great space for families to come and enjoy those facilities. An amount of \$50 000 will be given to Belmont Sports and Recreation Centre to provide additional closed-circuit television cameras and a temporary overhead power supply. The Belmont Junior Soccer Club will receive \$10 000 for fencing to protect their junior players. They play on one of our major roads on Wright Street at Miles Park. The club is looking forward to having that so that it can provide additional protection for its young players. Belmont Soccer Club will receive \$30 000 to provide additional storage facilities at Gerry Archer Reserve in Belmont.

In conclusion, I thank and acknowledge these great funding announcements by the Labor government. I know that they will be much appreciated by our local communities and will go a long way in stimulating jobs and providing that vital funding for not only our schools, but also our community groups and sporting clubs.

MR V.A. CATANIA (North West Central) [9.58 am]: I rise to speak about the Supply Bill 2017 and the effect that it will have on my electorate. I have read the debate in Parliament over the course of the week about projects in members' electorates and I would like to speak about a few projects in my electorate. It has been an absolutely privileged time to right the wrongs of the past in delivering to the North West Central electorate. Royalties for regions has provided an opportunity to right the wrongs of the past 40 to 50 years and deliver to communities from Yalgoo all the way to Onslow, across to Tom Price, Paraburdoo, Wiluna and Sandstone, and now the seat goes all the way out to the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. I refer to projects that have been delivered, such as the installation of regional telecommunication towers along our highways, especially North West Coastal Highway, so that towns that have never had mobile phone reception, such as Yalgoo, now have that convenience.

Gascoyne Junction was devastated by floods in 2010–11, but we were able to rebuild the town because of royalties for regions. At the time, there was a lot of talk within government about whether the town should even exist, but

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the people of the town and the council got together and put forward what we needed to do, and royalties for regions delivered that. It delivered the amenities and rebuilt the public infrastructure that was needed. Anyone travelling through the Gascoyne should go and have a look at what has been done at Gascoyne Junction, because that is what royalties for regions is really about. It is a very small town, but very pivotal for tourism in the region. It has a linkage to Mount Augustus, and anyone who has been to Mount Augustus will know its beauty and tourist potential. There is a great potential to grow tourism in the region, and Mount Augustus is such an icon. If we talk about big rocks, it is the biggest rock in Australia. Everyone thinks that Uluru is the biggest rock, but in fact the biggest rock is Mount Augustus, in the Gascoyne in my electorate. We are trying to unlock that potential—it is a bit of a trek, but it is well worth making—by rebuilding Gascoyne Junction. Just before Christmas we opened a new bridge. The Gascoyne River runs through the town, and when there is a small flow, it cuts off the town and the ability for tourists to get to Mount Augustus. Royalties for regions paid for a bridge worth just under \$10 million. This is something that has been talked about for 40 or 50 years. The river cut the town off, and made it difficult to get supplies to some places, and that had a detrimental effect on tourism numbers.

Towns like Yalgoo have enjoyed massive benefits from royalties for regions. It has a very small population as well, but it is pivotal, travelling from Geraldton into the midwest. Its tourist potential has been developed through the shire redoing the caravan park, having a rage cage to give the kids something to do, building a new nursing post and rebuilding the St John Ambulance station. Emergency services are vital along that stretch of highway, and they need the tools to look after people who are travelling, not just locals but also tourists venturing into the midwest. Right throughout the communities of Mt Magnet, Cue and Meekatharra we can see how royalties for regions has had an impact. Tom Price, Shark Bay and Paraburdoo have also benefited. One of the biggest issues before 2008 was the number of people brought to the Pilbara by the mining boom. One could question that now, with all the people who seem to have been recently added to the electoral roll in the Pilbara, but that is a matter for another day. One of the big issues was day care facilities and sporting facilities, and we managed to provide those for places like Tom Price and Paraburdoo. Shortly construction will commence on a community hub in Paraburdoo. As people will be aware, it gets quite hot in the Pilbara, and Paraburdoo did not have an appropriate sporting complex to cater for football clubs, which are now accommodated in sea containers. When it is not possible to do anything out of doors during the day, this new community hub will provide for the needs of the town, including providing day care for people with young children. The school will have an undercover basketball court and other amenities, which will attract the attention of companies like Rio Tinto, which has contributed to the Paraburdoo community hub along with royalties for regions.

Some of the other projects highlighted in the media have included petunias down main streets. I am gobsmacked, because the Minister for Regional Development, Hon Alannah MacTiernan, was the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure at the time Forrest Highway was developed. If we are talking about petunias down main streets, members may recall some silver cylinders halfway down Forrest Highway.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Ice-cream cones!

Mr V.A. CATANIA: Yes, ice-cream cones down the highway! It is okay for Perth to have ice-cream cones down a highway, but it is not okay for places like Exmouth to have a world-class facility called the Ningaloo Centre. Only a couple of weeks ago the new Minister for Environment announced that the international whale shark convention would be held in Exmouth in 2019, because of the Ningaloo Centre. The Ningaloo Centre has been highlighted in this review—I call it a witch-hunt—by the government, trying to find the petunias in regional Western Australia. The Ningaloo Centre is a big petunia. It is a \$32 million facility, of which \$20 million was contributed by royalties for regions and \$7 million by the federal government. Lotterywest and the local government also contributed money. It has been subject to investigation by the Corruption and Crime Commission. The centre is broken up into different parts, and the issue with the centre has been with the aquarium. The Minister for Regional Development, Hon Alannah MacTiernan, has stated in the other place that it is an empty fish tank. That empty fish tank that she labels a petunia is not actually funded by royalties for regions; it is funded by the local government. Having toured the facility, I can say that it will be an amazing asset that will bring in a lot of people. In Exmouth, it is not always a perfect day. People cannot always go out to Ningaloo Reef, or go fishing, and sometimes there is a lack of things to do during the day, especially if the weather is not right. The centre will provide the opportunity for tourists to have a look at the history of Exmouth, and provide opportunities for tourism businesses to grow. Facilities for research are also included.

Members may not know how it all started. The Ningaloo Centre actually started under a Labor government. It had been talked about for nearly 20 years, and now we are able to deliver it, because of royalties for regions. This project was embarked on because of all the money being spent on the east coast on research on the coral reef systems. There are six of these facilities on the east coast. For a couple of weeks a year they would send over a ship to do some research in Exmouth, along the Ningaloo Reef. We were missing out on the ability to get all these

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research funds, to do this research. How do we attract and retain kids in regional Western Australia? We can attract and retain kids in Exmouth by making sure that they can have a career progression in looking after the reef through social sciences and so forth. That was the intention but, unfortunately, it has been a bit muddied in recent times with the change of government. TAFE had agreed to go into the facility so that we could have that linkage from the school and so that there could be good research and development facilities from having the universities involved. Suddenly, it has been changed and TAFE does not want to go into it, apparently, and now the shire, through the commissioner of the day, is moving the shire offices into that fantastic building.

I say that the intent has been broken. It was not meant to be a shire office; it was meant to be a facility for research and development and for tourism, and to have that connection between locals and tourists to grow the tourism industry, grow research and develop Exmouth. I think the intent for that facility has been somewhat lost. It is disappointing that the government of the day, which is a Labor government, has not sought to protect the intent of the facility, which, mind you, was started under a Labor government in the early 2000s.

Dr A.D. Buti: When you were a member of that great party!

Mr V.A. CATANIA: When I was a member I actually pushed for it. I think Hon Jon Ford was the minister at the time and there was never any money; hence, why it has been a great privilege and honour to represent the National Party to be able to deliver the project with \$20 million of royalties for regions to make it happen.

Ms S.E. Winton: It sent it broke.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: I hear the comment that it sent it broke—I do not even know what electorate the member represents.

A member: Wanneroo.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: I urge the member for Wanneroo to go up and have a look, because it is not sending it broke. I imagine that there are facilities in Wanneroo that cost the shire quite a bit and that it is never able to make up for that gap. How many shires use ratepayers' money to prop up swimming pools for example?

Ms J. Farrer: There is none in Cue.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: Cue does not actually want a swimming pool; it wants a water park because they cannot afford to run a swimming pool. However, that is a quite different matter, as the member for Kimberley should understand. She should support what I am saying because that is not what is set out if a shire cannot afford to have a swimming pool. The swimming pool in Exmouth costs the council about \$300 000 or \$400 000 a year to maintain. That is a loss. Should we get rid of the swimming pool in Exmouth? Is that what the member for Wanneroo is saying? We have to accept that every local government right across Western Australia is there to provide amenities for their ratepayers, and sometimes those things incur a loss, but should that stop them from providing amenities that ratepayers need, to service the community, to support ratepayers and to grow tourism? They are very good questions that the member for Wanneroo and other members should consider, especially if they think that building a facility in rural WA should always have to stack up financially. That is absolutely not the case. If that were the case, we would not have one hospital, any amenities such as swimming pools, or schools in regional WA, because it does not stack up. That is the whole point. We have to provide services for people who live in regional WA.

Look at what Exmouth produces in the oil and gas industry and the benefits that flow in jobs and royalties—although that is probably debatable sometimes when companies do not pay their tax—and the services towns such as Exmouth, cities like Karratha, Port Hedland, Tom Price and Paraburdoo have. The wealth those towns generate for Western Australia and Australia underpins the whole economy and we should be able to provide services that the people expect and deserve—basic services such as swimming pools, Ningaloo centres, state-of-the-art hospitals in Karratha, the Tom Price pavilion, new childcare facilities in Paraburdoo and the Paraburdoo community hub. I think that people who live in those towns that create the wealth deserve to have those facilities, and they do not always stack up.

I go back to the witch-hunt that is occurring. I could probably write the report now—“Waste of money”—and look at the population; it does not work. Although the Ningaloo Centre has not officially opened, there is no time to prove to people that the Ningaloo Centre is going to be a massive drawcard, other than the Minister for Environment releasing the fact that an international whale shark festival is occurring in Exmouth in 2019 courtesy of the Ningaloo Centre.

[Member's time extended.]

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Mr V.A. CATANIA: When the Minister for Regional Development talks about petunias and says that the Ningaloo Centre is a petunia, I say to her that I bet she will be there when we open the Ningaloo Centre in September. She will be cutting that ribbon, with the shire clerk, taking credit for a wonderful facility which this government is now criticising.

Mr K. Michel interjected.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: I caution the member for Pilbara to be careful what he says because he is going to find it very hard over the next four years.

When we look at what has been planned, it will take a while, because there has been huge neglect. To build a hospital it takes three to four years to lead up to actually laying a brick because a whole heap of design and community consultation needs to occur. We put, I think, over \$150 million into the North West Health Initiative, much like the Southern Inland Health Initiative that transformed health in regional WA.

I would like to see where the Tom Price Hospital and the Paraburdoo nursing post are and whether the government is going to continue to deliver new health services in regional WA. We are seeing that happening in Karratha, Exmouth and Carnarvon. Approved and ready to be funded is the Mt Magnet nursing post, worth over \$5 million. I want to see that occur through the Mid West Development Commission. I want to see where the first stage of the Meekatharra Hospital is, worth \$10 million. That is absolutely needed. It is one of the last hospitals in regional WA that needs to be rebuilt for the people living in Meekatharra, Mt Magnet, Cue and the whole Murchison area. My question is: given the fact that royalties for regions has been labelled a petunia by the Labor government, are hospitals a petunia in regional WA? If we were to use the same criteria that the government is using for the Ningaloo Centre and other projects around regional WA that have been funded by royalties for regions, the government could say that Tom Price and Meekatharra Hospitals and Paraburdoo and Mt Magnet nursing posts are all petunias.

Dr A.D. Buti: How do you work that logic?

Mr V.A. CATANIA: I say that because if the government is saying that the Ningaloo Centre does not stack up because it does not have the population or that the business case is not up to scratch, then it would not fund anything else.

Dr A.D. Buti: No; back it up.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: Hang on a second. It will be interesting to see the business cases when it comes to the so-called royalties for regions projects that this government is going to deliver in the state budget come September. I would like to see those business cases.

The other matter that I am sure we will pursue will be in response to Mark McGowan's media statement on Thursday, 8 May 2014, "Horror budget confirms Royalties for Regions is dead". I look forward to using that same headline come September. I would like to know whether the Labor government is going to keep to that legislation; that is, that 25 per cent of royalties in this state go to regional WA through royalties for regions. It will be interesting to see whether the government keeps that legislation, or whether it changes the legislation to water down royalties for regions—not just by changing the colours of the logo or even the name—and reflects on its delivery of the absolutely necessary terrific program called royalties for regions that has been delivered over the last eight years by the National Party in the Liberal–National government. Is the government going to change it? If one per cent of that 25 per cent is changed, the government will need to bring in legislation and change the royalties for regions program to reflect what it is doing. Whether it is changed by one, two or three per cent, the government will need to do that. It needs to be honest with the people of regional Western Australia that it will change the legislation. The government will need to introduce that legislation into Parliament as soon as possible so that it can show how important regional development is. That legislation needs to reflect the government's intent over the next four years.

Members opposite are on notice. Regional WA has them on notice. It is disheartening that projects are in limbo. There are a lot of aged-care projects across regional WA. The member for Bunbury should know how important these projects are. I have an aged-care project that has been funded by royalties for regions, but I do not know whether that project will be completed. The Minister for Education and Training and the Premier still have not really committed to the next stage of the Carnarvon Community College. It was fully funded by royalties for regions. That is not perfect, because I do not think that royalties for regions should fund everything that the Department of Education puts forward. An important part of the social fabric of a community is a good education system. I am pretty sure that the member for Mandurah has looked at Carnarvon over time. It is disgraceful where the Carnarvon high school sits at the moment. The school is being relocated onto one campus. It has been operating

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over three campuses. By the time it is finished, it will have taken 10 years. It is absolutely disappointing and disgusting that it will have taken 10 years by the time that school is redeveloped and rebuilt—if the funding is there come September. That is unacceptable.

There are some important things that we need to keep. Aged care in Carnarvon should be funded by the federal government. Royalties for regions has come in with \$15 million and filled that gap for people who in their later years of life want to stay in their town and see out their days. I hope that this government maintains that \$15 million.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members!

Mr V.A. CATANIA: When I start hearing interjections, I go back to some of the conversations that I had when I was on the Labor side of the fence. Flood mitigation in Carnarvon has been done now—\$60 million.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr T.J. Healy): Member, I ask you to please talk through the Chair. The member can be heard in silence. He does have the call.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: Flood mitigation was put to the then Minister for Water Resources, Hon John Kobelke, but he said that there was no money. Lo and behold, in 2010–11 there was a massive flood that wiped out plantations—the food that we eat. They are still recovering. This is probably the first year since the floods that the plantations have been able to fully recover. Knowing that they are now protected by the flood mitigation work provides peace of mind. It could be delivered only by royalties for regions. It was a massive project that looked after not only the people of the Gascoyne, but also the food that people eat, as a lot of the produce finds its way into the Perth market.

Wonderful things have been done in the north west, but there is a lot more to do. I started by saying that there had been 40 years of neglect, not just by the previous Labor government, but also by Liberal–National governments. All governments before 2008 neglected the Gascoyne, midwest and Pilbara towns. I can say that we were able to deliver a lot of the infrastructure projects talked about over those 40 years, but there is a lot more to do. I hope that this government not only continues with some of the projects that I have highlighted today, but also builds on those projects. It is great that the Karratha–Tom Price road has been talked about. I call her the minister for ice-cream cones now, but I am sure that she would ask why the Karratha–Tom Price road was not sealed during our time. It was because we were building hospitals, schools and all the facilities that we needed to attract and retain people in the towns. That road should be built with contributions from the resource sector and federal, state and local governments. It is a major piece of infrastructure that needs a buy-in from everyone. We needed to do all the other projects that had been talked about for so long to attract and retain people.

One of the biggest hurdles for tourism and attracting and retaining people is airline services. There is a need for the regulation of airline services in Western Australia. I think the former Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Hon Alannah MacTiernan, was on the right track in her time in the Labor government. My view is that airline companies cannot be allowed to cherrypick what they see as profitable routes. People can pay up to \$2 100 for a return flight to places like Paraburdoo. That is absolutely out of the reach of anyone who wants their family to come up and visit during Christmas or who wants to see their family in Perth.

A member: It's cheaper to go to Bali.

Mr V.A. CATANIA: That is right; it is cheaper to go to Bali. That is the problem. If we cannot fix our transport linkages and make it affordable, tourism cannot grow. The former Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Alannah MacTiernan, was right; we need a regulated network that treats Esperance, Albany, Geraldton, Kalbarri, Monkey Mia and Exmouth as one destination. I would like that to happen right across regional WA. Regional WA should be treated as one destination and given a regulated monopoly. In that way, government can set the price, where the airline companies can fly to and how often to ensure that regional WA gets to grow tourism and can attract and retain workers. I do not have much time to go into detail on that, but I will be pursuing it with the new Minister for Tourism, who has shown some good signs of tackling this issue. We need to look hard at how we can fix the transport issues in regional WA so that we can stop people going to Bali or other overseas destinations. We have a fantastic state and all we need to do is make it affordable for people to get to these towns.

MR J.E. McGRATH (South Perth) [10.28 am]: I was not going to speak on the Supply Bill, but after listening to the member for North West Central, I have to set the record straight on a few things. I know that country people have been bleating for many years that no money is being spent in country towns, but I want to mention something that is happening in my electorate of South Perth. Everyone thinks that South Perth is a high socioeconomic area where everyone drives Mercedes Benzes and they drive past the member for Mandurah's electorate and toot their horn. The truth of the matter is that there is a school in my electorate, Como Secondary College, that has been

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waiting for 20 years to have some action taken with either a complete rebuild or a new school. **Ms S. Winton** interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: No, back in the 1990s, my predecessor the former member for South Perth, Hon Phillip Pandal, began asking for better facilities at Como Secondary College. It is a school of excellence, and it is linked to Curtin University in mathematics and science. It has a special curriculum for gifted and talented young sporting people. Most of its students are from lower socioeconomic families, families with single parents and there are a lot of Indigenous kids. Como Secondary College has been punching above its weight for a long time. The former member for South Perth and I have been crying out like voices in the wilderness to get a government, either a Liberal–National or a Labor government—a government of any persuasion!—to do something about this school. For instance, soon after I was first elected, I heard complaints that kids were sitting in a classroom during a storm and water was leaking into the classroom. The teachers had to use buckets. This is modern-day education.

Mrs R.M.J. Clarke interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: I know; the member for Murray–Wellington can get up and talk about her electorate too, but I am talking about my electorate because they are the people I represent. Como Secondary College was built in 1969. A lot of high schools were built then because the baby boomer generation was coming through and student numbers were getting out of control. The government of the day had to build a lot of schools. They were not built as well as the old schools that were built between the 1920s and 1940s that were much bigger, stronger, longer-lasting buildings. To meet the need, the government of the day put up these schools, and Como Secondary College was one. There is a gym with a basketball court and everything but the kids have to walk about 200 metres to have a shower if they want to get changed. I cannot believe that we allow these things to happen.

Dr A.D. Buti: There's a specialised hockey centre too.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: There is a specialised hockey school and golf program. When we went to the last election, we came up with a plan to spend \$20 million but we lost the election so that is history. However, I am even critical of the Liberal government because I think we were too late. We left it to announce these things going into an election. Why did we not listen to one of our members? Phil Pandal was an Independent, but he was an Independent Liberal. Why did we not listen to him when he had a genuine complaint about the education of our kids? Como Secondary College produces some outstanding students. It gets some great results and punches above its weight. I think resealing the roof is all that has been done for the school in recent years. A new roof was put on it so at least the kids can say, “At least we don't have to take an umbrella into the classroom.” I cannot believe it. I can understand the frustration of members in country areas with smaller populations. They are always battling to get things done, but this school is only a few kilometres from the CBD. If we are talking about building schools in the CBD, why do we not get some kids to go over to Como Secondary College?

There was a plan to make Como Secondary College a K–12 school and Curtin Primary School was going to be shut down. It is a small primary school, which used to be called Koonawarra Primary School. A lot of kids from Karawara go to Curtin Primary School. It is a good little school, but it is struggling for numbers. It was planned to shut down the school and move it over to Como Secondary College, and Como Secondary College was to be turned into a K–12 school. What a great idea! Do members know what happened? Nothing. I hear people banging on about things in their electorates and I understand we all represent our electorates but I want to set the record straight on this opinion that South Perth does not need anything. Members think people in South Perth are all wealthy, they do not need anything, no money needs to be spent in South Perth and that we do not need to worry about South Perth. I do not know whether the Minister for Education and Training has ever been to Como Secondary College but I will ask her to come and have a look. Two former education ministers came out to see the college and the work it is doing out there, but nothing has happened. This is from both sides of the chamber; it is not one party. The school has been ignored by whoever is in government and I think it is a disgrace. I think we need some sort of a plan. Both parties, in their times in government, have built a lot of new schools because our city and our population has grown and when urban sprawl happens, we have to put in new schools. That is great and both parties in government have done that. However, we have neglected to look after these ageing schools like the school I went to, John Curtin College of the Arts, and Kalamunda Senior High School. These old schools would be all around the place. They need to be modernised because there were built for a generation in the 1950s and 60s but they are not suitable for the requirements of our modern-day kids.

Mr M. Hughes: Kalamunda was ignored because it was a safe Liberal seat. It did nothing in government.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: That is Kalamunda; I do not know Kalamunda. I do not want to politicise this. I am saying that I do not care who is in government. I raise this issue in my party room.

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For 12 years, I have fought for an on-ramp to the freeway at Manning Road. The member for Nedlands was a transport minister. A conga line of ministers came out and looked at it. The Labor Party did not want to do it; it was only forced on it now by the federal government. The federal government wanted to win the seat of Swan, so it asked: what is an important infrastructure project? Manning Road was a no-brainer. I have been saying for 12 years that it is a no-brainer, but did anyone listen? No. During the election campaign, the former Minister for Transport came out and announced that we would build the on-ramp Manning Road. Unfortunately, we did not win the election. Building a Manning Road on-ramp was not a Labor election commitment but now —

Dr A.D. Buti: We're doing it!

Mr J.E. McGRATH: The government is doing it and I am very happy!

Several members interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: The Labor Party is doing it because when the Labor government went to the federal government and said, "We want to move some of the funding for Roe 8 and we want to do Metronet"—I think that is fine—The federal government said, "Hang on a minute; these are the projects we are going to fund." Somehow, Manning Road was put on that list of projects because the Feds wanted to win the seat of Swan. It is an outcome I am happy about. I will be there when the Minister for Transport comes down—I will show her where Manning Road is—to open the new on-ramp. It will be a great result for me. I hope it is done in this term of government.

I heard what the member for North West Central said about Carnarvon. I have been there quite regularly. There is need for that school to be upgraded but he is not alone. We all have needs and projects that we are trying to get up. I once read about a federal member of Parliament who fought for something for 20 years. He might have died on the job before it happened! It took him 20 years to get a project done. As a word of warning for new members, the process can be very slow at times.

Thank you for the opportunity, Mr Acting Speaker (Mr T.J. Healy). I like the way you control the chamber. You have a demeanour about you that everyone respects and I think you will go a long way. Thank you very much.

MR R.S. LOVE (Moore) [10.39 am]: I would like to make a very brief contribution to the discussion on the Supply Bill 2017. I understand it will allow for the continuation of government while the current government goes through the machinations of working out where it wants to spend money to pay for its election promises. Part of that continuation is the royalties for regions program. As we heard from the member for North West Central, royalties for regions is a very important part of the scene in regional Western Australia.

As we know, that program is set at 25 per cent of the mining royalties to the state. That level is mandated by the act of Parliament that brought in the royalties for regions scheme in the 2008–2013 era of government. I am a bit bewildered because I hear from people throughout regional Western Australia that the current Minister for Regional Development and her parliamentary secretary have been visiting the regions and talking to local governments, people who have been in receipt of grants, development commissions et cetera, and have indicated that the government is looking for savings from the royalties for regions program. During the election campaign that led up to this latest change of government, the Labor Party made frequent reference to how royalties for regions was mandated and was not under threat. Therefore, I cannot understand how the government could be looking to make savings from the royalties for regions program. The only way the government could make savings from royalties for regions would be if it decided to spend money from royalties for regions on programs that would otherwise be funded from consolidated revenue. Given that is not the spirit of the royalties for regions program, and given that the Labor government has committed to maintaining royalties for regions, I am at a complete loss to understand what that process of looking for savings is all about. If we take at face value what the minister has said, perhaps the government intends to redirect some of the funding from that program to projects that have not yet been announced by the government. However, the royalties for regions scheme cannot be used to make savings to the budget.

I also take umbrage at the description of the royalties for regions program up until now as being in the "petunia phase". The other week I was in Watheroo at the Keamy family's property for the dedication of the final of the three Doppler radar towers that were approved to be built at the time my colleague Hon Terry Redman, who has just entered the chamber, was Minister for Regional Development. That was a \$23 million program to pay for not only the building of those radar towers but also the running costs for many years to come. Doppler radar fills a big hole that has existed in the traditional radar information that has been available to not just farmers in Western Australia but anyone who is interested in the weather. For example, Doppler radar provides vital information when there is a bushfire and people need to know exactly what the wind is doing and when the wind will change. Therefore, I find it offensive that the minister would describe royalties for regions, which has funded the Doppler radar program, as being in the petunia phase. The Doppler program marries with another program that

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has been implemented to put over 100 weather stations into country Western Australia. Those weather stations, together with Doppler radar, provide the sort of ground-truthing that is necessary if we want to introduce a multi-peril crop insurance program that is based on weather events rather than financial events. That opens up the opportunity for farmers to protect themselves in the future against adverse weather conditions and the vagaries of climate change.

I want to take a moment to update the house on the situation in my area of the Agricultural Region, the northern agricultural region, which stretches from the outskirts of Perth to the Murchison River. I drove through that area in the middle of June, and it was distressing to see that most of the ground is still bare and there is very little germination in any of the cropping areas. I have grave concerns for many of the farmers who live in the northern part of my electorate, given the dry start to the cropping season, because by about August, the temperature and the conditions are often very harsh, so cropping needs to begin early.

One of the great ways in which farmers have been trying to improve their productivity and reduce the risks in the farming game is by forming groups for the purpose of joint research. They often use their own land as a place to stage that research and are able to apply that information quickly and directly to improve farming operations on not only their own properties but also other properties. As a Nationals member, I am very pleased that the former Minister for Regional Development approved a significant amount of funding—\$17 million—to grower groups to enable them to partner with others to further research into areas of interest for not only grain growers but also growers who are interested in livestock, the production of wine, and a range of farming activities. That funding has proved very popular and those grower groups have had a tremendous influence in their area. I am proud that in my electorate, grower groups such as the Mingenew–Irwin Group, the Liebe Group, the West Midlands Group and the Moora–Miling Pasture Improvement Group are doing a tremendous amount of work and are contributing to not only their own area but also agriculture generally throughout the state. That program, which enables grower groups to improve productivity in their industry, has been very successful and is very important.

As I have mentioned, at the event at Watheroo for the dedication of the Doppler tower, Hon Alannah MacTiernan, the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Regional Development, indicated that in her view, short-term funding for grower groups is not a good use of government funding and she would rather put that money directly into the Department of Agriculture and Food as was done in the 1950s and 1960s. The minister is trying to turn back the clock to the old days. However, unfortunately, time has moved on and we have moved away from that, because that is what the industry has told us that it wants. It will not be easy to turn back the clock in the way that the minister is envisaging. The Department of Agriculture and Food no longer has the personnel in the form of younger scientists et cetera who can be called upon to do that type of work. They have moved into the private sector, into grower groups, and into other ways of providing for the industry. To try to turn back the clock now will be a waste of the resource and will not lead to a good outcome. I agree that the Department of Agriculture and Food needs to be well funded. It has important tasks to do. However, that is not the only way of delivering research. We know from experience that enabling grower groups to take responsibility for research, and identify the topics they want to address and the methods they want to use to address those topics, is the best way to ensure that research is properly guided into the future.

I found it rather strange to listen to what the minister said in Watheroo. I was talking to a representative of the Moora–Miling Pasture Improvement Group and members of the Liebe Group when the minister said that. They were shocked and somewhat dismayed. I hope the minister listens to industry and to the people on the ground. I also hope that she does not go through with this plan not to fund the grower groups into the future, which is what I understood her to say.

Another area of royalties for regions investment that has been tremendously important has been the commitment to aged care throughout regional Western Australia. I hear that the minister is looking for savings from the program and is holding back on committing to some important announcements that were made by the previous government. Those commitments were approved by the minister and the cabinet of the day. The government says that those commitments are unfunded, yet the money has been put aside in the program. I know this from my previous roles in regional development. The money has been put aside in the royalties for regions program to actually pay for that. As I said earlier, the money is mandated under statute to flow into the royalties for regions program. I cannot see how a claim could be made that these are unfunded commitments. They are not unfunded commitments; they are fully funded under the royalties for regions program. This is very distressing not only to me, but also to the communities involved—small communities in my electorate such as Yerecoin, Calingiri and Dalwallinu, and even some of the larger ones such as Toodyay and Moora. People have worked very hard to gain funding. They have invested an enormous amount of community time into making applications. Tremendous projects have been put forward for funding to provide independent living units within their community only to be left in limbo now while we wait for the new government to decide whether it will go through with these programs. I would have thought, under any sort of fair reading of the Westminster system of government, that cabinet makes a decision, that

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decision is announced, the funding is available and the incoming government carries on with that funding. I do not really understand what the government is trying to achieve, but I know that it is causing a great deal of upset to people in my electorate. There are some very disappointed and concerned people. These are very much needed programs.

I note an announcement was made today about the Southern Inland Health Initiative. I have previously said in Parliament that that is a very important royalties for regions program. It has also come to a point at which there needs to be a funding commitment to continue that program beyond 30 June. I acknowledge the Minister for Health. He is not in the chamber now, but were he here, I would gladly acknowledge my thanks that he has at least committed to continue stream 1—the very important incentive program for medical practitioners in regional Western Australia. That program would have faced the cliff face in a few weeks, and now at least there is some certainty in that program. I thank the government for that announcement.

I point out that many other streams of the Southern Inland Health Initiative are yet to receive funding commitments from the current government, one of those being the telehealth program. Telehealth in Western Australia not only increases the level of service available to country people, but also saves money for the government because it is a far more efficient way to deliver specialist emergency help into regional areas than actual specialists practising in each small community. A cardiologist cannot practise in communities of 500 people, but through the telehealth system, not only can people access a cardiologist when somebody enters a small nursing post or a small hospital, but also life-saving drugs and procedures can be administered. They have been demonstrated to be lifesaving. Without those drugs and without access to a cardiologist to approve and direct their use, some people who are with us today would not be with us today. It is tremendously important. I hope the government will commit to funding the telehealth program into the future as well, as it has very recently with the stream 1 GP incentives.

Another program in my electorate that I think is tremendously important is the Turquoise Coast Health Initiative. That program provides services into the peri-urban areas of my electorate—the areas that bound the metropolitan area and the coastal strip up as far as Dongara. There has been a dearth of services there for many years. There is very little health infrastructure and services. The population in the Shire of Chittering is growing at one of the fastest rates of any non-metropolitan area of the state—at about six per cent a year. No services are being provided to people in that area. I have highlighted before the situation for people in these districts. The Turquoise Coast Health Initiative requires that \$22.46 million in royalties for regions funding. That funding was approved by the former government. Again, it is a program that is mandated under statute, so the money is available. It will flow into the government's coffers to provide for it. I hope the government will consider that into the future.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr R.S. LOVE: The Supply Bill will of course enable the continuation of other programs. I have a particular concern about road safety in my electorate. Over a number of years the dangers of some of the roads in my electorate have been demonstrated. I recently highlighted the situation on Indian Ocean Drive. Indian Ocean Drive is much busier now than it used to be due to the completion of the road, in 2010, from Lancelin to Cervantes, which has linked that road from Wanneroo to Brand Highway, about 30 kilometres south of Dongara.

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

Mr R.S. LOVE: I do not know what the minister said, but I am sure it was humorous!

In addressing the government on this matter, I point out that the previous Labor government, going back to the Carpenter government era, put money into completing that section of Indian Ocean Drive. It is largely its responsibility now to fix the southern end because of the tremendous amount of growth that has led to traffic numbers. We need this government's commitment into the future to improve the southern section of Indian Ocean Drive. The traffic numbers mean that it is now much more dangerous than it used to be.

Mr D.A. Templeman: What are the numbers now?

Mr R.S. LOVE: I am not able to tell the minister those numbers off the top of my head. If he likes, I will certainly send them to him.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Take it as a supplementary question!

Mr R.S. LOVE: I will get my staff to research it for the minister!

Mr D.A. Templeman: Get your people to talk to my people and we will find the answers!

Mr R.S. LOVE: I can tell the minister, though, that the very week that Indian Ocean Drive opened, I was a school bus driver in the Badgingarra area and spent a fair bit of time on Brand Highway. It was as though Brand Highway had completely shut down—there was no traffic. Over the first few weeks everybody drove up and down Indian Ocean Drive. I have noticed that traffic has steadily come back to Brand Highway. I am told that that is because

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people feel unsafe on Indian Ocean Drive. Drivers also feel that they will be held up because of a lack of passing opportunities et cetera. Even though the distance is shorter, I am told the time is longer for trips from Dongara and Geraldton, for instance, down to Perth. For a person living in Jurien Bay it is a different matter, because the distance is far shorter down Indian Ocean Drive than to drive all the way to Brand Highway.

Another road that I will take time to highlight is Toodyay Road. The wheatbelt section of Toodyay Road is a very dangerous stretch of road. Work has been done to improve that road. When I say that work has been done, environmental clearances have been obtained. Land has also been purchased to enable road widening. That work was done in the recent past. I thank the former Minister for Road Safety for her support. I look forward to continued support from the current government and the current minister to develop a safer Toodyay Road.

To close the discussion, I would very briefly like to touch on tourism. Tourism is a job creator, and I am glad to see the Minister for Tourism in the house. It is a very important industry, especially in my electorate, which has a great deal of potential for the development of tourist products. My electorate has icons such as Kalbarri National Park, the Pinnacles and Nambung National Park. There are opportunities in scenic towns such as Dongara, Jurien Bay, Cervantes, Lancelin and Ledge Point and also, not to neglect the growing popularity of the eastern areas of the electorate, in the wheatbelt and midwest grain-growing areas. A lot of people come out in the wildflower season, especially caravanners, to places such as Mullewa, where they can see the unique wreath flowers around Mullewa, Pintharuka and Morawa. Some royalties for regions programs have helped improve awareness of those areas. Wildflower drive trails have been developed throughout the midwest on what we call the Midlands Road, the old road to Geraldton before the opening of the Brand Highway, as well as the Mullewa–Wubin Road. They are very, very popular and it will be of great benefit to the state of Western Australia if expenditures are made to enable more tourism visitation, to make people aware of the opportunities that exist in the area and to improve their experience when they visit. The “Parks for People: Caravan and Camping” program has been very important in doing that. We have seen some improvements in the Coalseam Conservation Park area just outside Mingenew. It is a very scenic area; it is a spectacular area. If anybody wants to spend a few hours driving around the electorate, I suggest the town of Mingenew as a great destination and then head up the road towards Mullewa.

Mr D.A. Templeman: I had an interesting picnic there many years ago.

Mr R.S. LOVE: A picnic at hanging rock, yes.

Mr D.A. Templeman: When I was teaching in Three Springs.

Mr R.S. LOVE: Yes, the member for Mandurah had a lovely picnic there.

Mr D.A. Templeman: No, I had a very interesting picnic. I could tell you an interesting story but I might be expelled from the house if I went into detail!

Mr R.S. LOVE: It is perhaps a story for the bar afterwards!

I want to touch again very quickly on the situation in Kalbarri National Park—another parks for people program investment site. A major development is underway there with a skywalk and the sealing of roads in and out of the park. The minister will be well aware of that and the potential of that. We hope that will be concluded fairly soon, although I understand the actual skywalk has not yet gotten underway, but it will be good to get that done. I am very concerned, though, about the situation for some of the small businesses in Kalbarri that have been left in a precarious position after being underpaid for some services. It is not just in Kalbarri; other contractors based elsewhere have been involved in that program. They were not being paid, even though they provided a service. The government was paying people above them, but the money was not filtering through.

Mr P. Papalia: Have you directed them towards the Small Business Commissioner?

Mr R.S. LOVE: Yes. I have directed them through to the Department of Commerce.

Mr P. Papalia: And the Small Business Development Corporation as well?

Mr R.S. LOVE: I am not sure whether I have directed them to the Small Business Commissioner as such, but we have had advice from the Department of Commerce and through the Minister for Environment in his role as the overseer of the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Mr P. Papalia: I would like to hear it as Minister for Small Business.

Mr R.S. LOVE: I would be very glad to get that information to the minister as soon as I can. Those people deserve to be paid for services that they have provided and it would be very sad if this whole exciting opportunity, which has been opened up in Kalbarri, was tinged with people left financially disadvantaged. I hope that something can be done and I will undertake to get that to the minister himself, and through to the Small Business Commissioner as well. All in all, in my electorate at least, a number of programs are waiting on government decisions to see which way they will fall.

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To go back to royalties for regions and to reiterate: I do not really see where these so-called savings can be made in royalties for regions, if the government commits to the spirit of royalties for regions and puts in the 25 per cent of mining royalties and spends it in innovative, new ways to stimulate growth and provide a better life for the people in regional Western Australia.

MR B. URBAN (Darling Range) [11.05 am]: I rise to speak on the Supply Bill 2017. First of all, I want to acknowledge the former Liberal–National government for my rise into this chamber. If it was not for the last 12 and a half years of promising lots of things and delivering nothing for the seat of Darling Range, I would not be here today.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: So, not your own effort? It must have been us!

Mr B. URBAN: The effort was absolutely outstanding from the member for Dawesville’s side!

First of all, I want to acknowledge Tony Simpson, who was a very good member and a popular member around the Darling Range area. He offered quite a lot. I listened to the member for South Perth earlier today. He seemed to have been forgotten by the government for the last eight and a half years. It was not just his electorate that was forgotten about. Kalamunda was also forgotten about, as was Darling Range. I will not say it was easy because it was hard work. I wore out a couple of pairs of shoes walking around knocking on doors, and I was suntanned! Yes, I slip, slop, slapped, before the member for Dawesville raises that! I had my long-sleeved blue shirt on. The former government forgot about the people of Darling Range.

It is on record that I was a councillor at the Shire of Serpentine–Jarrahdale. I understand that Serpentine–Jarrahdale is growing at the rate of 6.8 per cent. It is probably one of the biggest growth areas in all of Australia, not just Western Australia or the regions. It probably has the biggest growth anywhere in Australia and its needs are great. Housing affordability is really, really cheap; land is cheap and houses are down. But there are no facilities there. As a councillor, I shouted that Darling Range, or Serpentine–Jarrahdale, had affordable housing but not affordable living. We have just managed to get Coles in there. I encourage the member for Dawesville to acknowledge Darling Range in the Peel region, because his member is down there—apart from the minister on the far side, he knows where Darling Range is. He is always over there; he speaks to me.

Mr D.A. Templeman: I had a few interesting picnics there too.

Mr B. URBAN: I am sure the minister had a few lovely picnics there. I hope he had picnics in Jarrahdale too. It is a beautiful location.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Yes, there is a very nice trails area there.

Mr B. URBAN: There is. I happen to be a trails guide there. If anybody wants to come and join me this Sunday, please feel free to go to the Old Post Office Museum in Jarrahdale at 8.30 am. I will be a trail guide, as I am every other weekend. Please come and join me and we will take people through the wonderful trails of Jarrahdale. Thank you, minister.

Mr D.A. Templeman: I hope you have a GPS tracking device on you just in case. I don’t want you to get lost!

Mr B. URBAN: Just in case!

I also want to thank a couple of ex-ministers. I see the member for Nedlands, who was the Minister for Planning at the time. He actually came to Darling Range and into the Serpentine–Jarrahdale area, so he knew where it was. He is not here, but the member for Bateman came down once, whilst I was a councillor there. He promised to deliver a world of things. I do not know what the things were. He would say, “Oh yes, \$60 000; \$60 million for that. Yes, we can sort that out.” It never materialised, but at least he knew where we were.

I know that the former Minister for Police came down to the Mundijong Police Station, which was greatly accepted and received.

Mrs L.M. Harvey: It was a fantastic achievement.

Mr B. URBAN: It was an absolutely outstanding achievement, member. I want to put on record too that the former Mundijong Police Station was condemned, through Dave Lampard and me, in company with the Western Australian Police Union. As a councillor, I found the location for the police station and it was with the assistance of the former Minister for Police that we got the police station built, so I thank the member on behalf of the people of Darling Range. It was a much-needed station.

Mrs L.M. Harvey: We were very proud of that.

Mr B. URBAN: We were very proud. However, with the growth in the number of police officers there, they will really struggle in that central kitchen area that is not big enough for eight police officers.

Extract from Hansard

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Mrs L.M. Harvey: It was a struggle when there was no commitment from your government for growth in the number of police numbers.

Mr B. URBAN: It was the member's government because it was in government at the time.

Mrs L.M. Harvey: No. We made a commitment to increase the number with the police commissioner.

Mr B. URBAN: We have. Anyway, I am not going to go there. I thank the member anyway.

Mr P. Papalia: We both made the same commitment.

Mr B. URBAN: Yes, exactly the same.

I want to talk about the money for the public sector. I went from the police into the youth justice world and I saw the amount of money that was lost or frozen. We were unable to renew contracts and that caused front-end staff to really struggle—the staff who talk to young offenders in the community and try to get them into education, to stop them reoffending and to rehabilitate and reintegrate them back into the community. Those staff were lost. Youth justice officers were working at maximum capacity and kids were literally dropping through the net because of the Liberal–National government's freeze on funding.

I also want to talk about the child protection and family services in the Peel region. The member for that area is in the chamber and he will attest to this. Due to the freeze on funding and the chopping of the service, much-needed family support units were being closed down. The government agency was suffering, which meant that the people in Dawesville, member for Dawesville, could not use that service. The people in Peel, Pinjarra and Murray–Wellington could not use that service that came out of Mandurah because those services were closed down and the staff were pushed back. It is a shame.

I am glad that the Premier is here. I would like to thank the Premier. It frightens me every time he comes into this chamber for two reasons. He spent just as much time in Darling Range as I did, and at one stage I thought he was trying to be the candidate for Darling Range. I want to thank him and say first that he is an outstanding member for Rockingham, and an outstanding "member for Darling Range". He came out to Darling Range, as many other ministers from our side did. We walked the streets and talked to people and we understood what they wanted. They wanted to extend the train line from Armadale to Byford. All right; it took a little conversation with the Premier who then said, "This we can do." I want to thank him for that. The time frame for the line is 2023. I accept that and the people of Darling Range accept that. It is a much-needed facility and a much-needed transport link that people from Byford in particular will use to travel out of the area. Again, we have affordable housing in Darling Range but not affordable living. We do not really have a bus service around the area. Single mums who do not have a car have no other means of travelling out of the area. Kids who want to catch up with their mates on the weekend cannot get out of the area. They have to rely on their parents with cars. This is a much-needed service. We would like to get it earlier but I understand the thoughts behind that time frame.

The member for Armadale and I have been fighting very heavily over the link at Denny Avenue, which is in another part of Darling Range that covers 1 960 square kilometres—the biggest metropolitan electoral seat. We have been fighting for the Denny Avenue link because all the kids from Clifton Hills and Roleystone come down onto Albany Highway at that bottleneck at Denny Avenue. I am glad to see that the Minister for Transport; Planning has looked at it and realised it is a mess. It is going to be sorted out, so I thank her.

I will go to another topic close to my heart. Three years ago, the Premier saw a need to transfer land for a regional sports facility in Mundijong, and he was at that launch. The plan is that 50 000 people will live in Mundijong, and 50 000 people will live in Byford. In the region of 100 000 people will live between the two towns, but there is nowhere for these sports groups to expand—nowhere at all! I have been in a group for about eight years now and we have been looking at trying to put in a regional sports facility to get all these sports groups into the one area so that they can develop their clubs together and not be ad hoc all over the place. We identified a bit of land on Keirnan Street in Mundijong, right in the centre of the Serpentine–Jarrahdale area. This land is in the hands of the Mental Health Commission. I am hoping that it can be a quick acquisition and that the title can be transferred from the Mental Health Commission to the local shire so that it can then move on from the feasibility studies and business plans, which it does have, to developing a regional sports facility. This facility will take in sports such as netball—I will go into these in more detail a bit later—and cricket. It could involve two sports close to my heart, the first of which is soccer. I am a member of the great Armadale Soccer Club, and I will talk about that in a minute. I still play masters soccer. I am not as fast as I used to be but I still play. The other sport is martial arts, member for Dawesville. A recreational sports facility area is set aside so that we can cater for that sport in particular. It could have a cage in the middle and we could run some mixed martial arts fighting events. Lots of people will be there because lots of people enjoy this sport.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: I should come on over.

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Mr B. URBAN: The member should come on over and we could do a bit of a newaza together. I am sure that we will quite happily —

Mr A. Krsticevic: I will visit you both in hospital!

Mr B. URBAN: I would encourage the member for Carine to join us too and he might learn a bit about some arm locks. I thought that these backbenchers were just going to take it, but, with all these interjections, I am telling them now that I can give a good bit and I am quite happy to take it back.

Mr P.A. Katsambanis: You can do it in the octagon now.

Mr B. URBAN: My sport has dreamt for so long of the octagon being here in Western Australia

Mr A. Krsticevic: You are in the wrong profession.

Mr B. URBAN: I am in the right profession because we need people to stand up in this place for all society and all people. I am a proud second dan judo and first dan Shotokan. I absolutely love putting the mixed martial arts gloves on—I cannot say Ultimate Fighting Championship in here, but I am going to say it anyway—and getting in that octagon and having some absolute fun; that is what I call it. It is fun and it is absolute discipline. It is not just a street brawl in there. I am digressing but I want to add to this. This is not just brawling. It is constructed martial arts between two people who agree to have a fair fight, and there is discipline and courtesy in it and the winner takes all—not literally.

Mr P.A. Katsambanis: If the member wants to digress to his other sport and his Newcastle United attire —

Mr B. URBAN: I have my Newcastle United Football Club tie on today and we have been promoted to the Premier League.

Mr A. Krsticevic: They are magpies so they are okay.

Mr B. URBAN: I want to talk about T-ball in Byford, which is going to receive some money from our better communities fund. The T-ball club in Byford has been going for a number of years. It was called the North Murray Diamonds. It died a few years ago and it was resurrected by Ramone Glasgow. It has huge participation. It needs a lot of money for extra bats. Its bats are 19 years old. I think it got them from the Pinjarra club. This money will be used to help Ramone Glasgow buy new equipment for the T-ball club.

Mundijong Serpentine Little Athletics is part of the Peel region. It is run out of Baldivis but when the kids train down at Serpentine Primary School, they do not have new mats to use. The mats have been re-covered and the foam inside is deteriorating. The club does not have its own javelins because they are borrowed from the school, and it does not have its own discs. This money will be greatly appreciated by the club to let the kids train on new equipment for once and not just go to Baldivis to use new equipment. “Oh, what is this?” “Oh, that’s a javelin.” “Ours is different from that.” “Yes, because yours is 33 years old.” They are totally different. Centrals Football Club and the SJ Blues Cricket Club share clubrooms. They want a better facility with new fridges throughout because they are using second-hand and donated refrigeration systems in their kitchen.

Coming from youth justice, one of the things I am really keen on is youth issues and getting youth engaged. I will talk about the Serpentine–Jarrahdale Youth Activity Group in a moment, but we have committed \$200 000 to expand the Byford youth zone. That is much needed at Briggs Park in the Byford area, which has a little section for the YMCA. We need to build on that because it is turning away kids because it has only one room. I think it is shameful that kids who need help and need a counselling service do not have space or the facility for that.

I refer to Roleystone Theatre. I am going to go out of Byford and head up the hill. The member for Carine does not know where “up the hill” is.

Mr A. Krsticevic: Of course I do!

Mr B. URBAN: Because he sees it from Carine.

Mr A. Krsticevic: I have been up the hill many times.

Mr B. URBAN: And back again I hope! Roleystone has many, many good community groups. It has Roleystone Theatre. I want to say thank you to the Leader of the House. He is a great theatre man.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Theatre man—is that me?

Mr A. Krsticevic: I thought he was talking to me.

Mr B. URBAN: I know the member for Carine likes theatricals, but theatre? No. We are going to give Roleystone Theatre money for much-needed sound equipment and lights.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Who is that?

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Mr B. URBAN: Roleystone Theatre.

Mr D.A. Templeman: I have not trod the boards there. However, I am sure I will be invited at some stage.

Mr B. URBAN: They have just done a great show—*Oklahoma!* Paul Presbury, who was a police officer in Armadale many years ago, is still treading the boards. He is a retired policeman and the grandfather of the theatre. We are going to assist the theatre with some new up-to-date sound and light systems.

Mr D.A. Templeman: You would make a good Watson. I can just see you as Watson.

Mr B. URBAN: “It’s elementary, my dear.”

Mr D.A. Templeman: There you go. You’ve got the gig.

[Member’s time extended.]

Mr D.T. Redman: Was that an extension to allow the interjection?

Mr B. URBAN: Absolutely. The Roleystone Gymnastics Club is a great facility. There are 250 kids at this club that runs out of Karragullen, even though it is called Roleystone. The club wants some extra tumble mats. The thing that excites me about this club is not only that there are 250 kids—boys and girls—all having fun, but it has a section that caters for kids with autism. It has trained gymnasts or instructors, whatever you want to call them, who help these kids do gymnastics. That is a great facility and community resource. It is much needed by not only kids in Roleystone–Karragullen; kids also come down from Harrisdale and Piara Waters because there is an instructor there who understands the disability that these kids have. We have offered \$16 400 to this club for extra tumble mats and to make this a better place. I am really looking forward to the end-of-year exhibition in December, which I attended last year as the candidate. It was great to see all these kids enjoying themes and putting on a great production.

I am going to talk about men’s sheds in general. There is the Serpentine Jarrahdale Men’s Shed at Mundijong, the Roleystone Men’s Shed, the Mundaring Men’s Shed, the Forrestdale Men’s Shed and the Serpentine Jarrahdale Youth Activity Group, which is a men’s shed for young kids. All these groups in our area have a great membership base and meet a pivotal need for our communities. It is not only seniors and men who attend men’s sheds. They are community sheds and they are much needed to assist people, including people with strokes like Brian Phillips. He is a steam wood bender who worked on the *Endeavour*. After he had his stroke, he could not do anything so we took him to the Forrestdale Men’s Shed and he is now getting movement back in his hands and his face and he is part of where he once was. They are great organisations that will benefit from this.

I refer to the wonderful Armadale Soccer Club. I am sorry that the member for Armadale is not here. He had a meeting. The soccer club will benefit from this funding. I have been a member of Armadale Soccer Club for 15 years. It has always wanted that lean-to off the front so that it can put a stand in there to adhere to the conditions of the National Premier Leagues Western Australia in which it competes, and it has never been able to do that. We are committing to developing the grounds so that it can compete at that level and not be pulled back down to the leagues beneath because it does not have an adequate stadium.

I want to say thank you to WA Labor. I would like to say thank you for lots of things that WA Labor has given to Darling Range and is contributing to Darling Range because for many years—I mean many years—Darling Range has been forgotten. To Premier Mark McGowan, I want to say thank you yet again. Mark McGowan has not forgotten Darling Range. He will never forget Darling Range and I know that he will not forget WA people; he always puts them first, so thank you.

MS S.E. WINTON (Wanneroo) [11.27 am]: I would also like to speak on the Supply Bill 2017. I thank the member for Darling Range for giving us the opportunity to hear about some of the major issues and concerns that are confronting his electorate. I take the opportunity here to do similarly with regard to the state seat of Wanneroo. I could talk about many things, but I thought I would focus on three areas in particular that have taken my attention as a local advocate, local resident and long-time community volunteer in Wanneroo. Those three areas are education, the environment and sport.

As a teacher for 27 years, I am really delighted to be representing local schools in my area. I am thrilled that in the short time that I have been in this place, I have already hosted students from schools in Pearsall, Carramar and Tapping on excursions to this place. Certainly, they are the future leaders of our great state. Given that it is mandated in our curriculum that civics and citizenship be covered in schools, I am thrilled that my local schools have a strong emphasis in that regard, and I look forward to continuing to work with them.

I want to focus today on Wanneroo Secondary College. It is the only public secondary school in my electorate, so it is an important school for our community. It is also important to me because not only am I the local member representing that school in this place, but also I attended that school. The school opened in 1977, under the

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leadership of the late Glyn Watkins, who was an extraordinary leader and well ahead of his time. It was a showcase, flagged school in its day, and I had the privilege of being part of the second cohort to go through the school in 1978. I have really fond memories of my time at that school, and it was innovative back in those days. Having been a teacher for 27 years, as I reflect on the practices that were in place at that school in those days, I am further impressed with what was taking place in the late 70s and early 80s. There were things like having zones of 90 minutes, rather than having six periods a day, so we would have three zones a day; and the teacher advisory group pastoral care system. The houses were named after places in Wanneroo, so they included Wanneroo, Ariti and so on. I was in the house of Rogers, and it is not lost on me that the colour for that faction was red. There must be something about red, because even in primary school at Yanchep I was in the red faction. Perhaps I will be wearing this red jacket for a long time to come.

I was a proud student councillor for the five years I attended Wanneroo Secondary College, and I was the president of that student council, so I am really excited about the opportunities I will get to work as both a former teacher and a local member to support that school in its civics and citizenship program. The school is currently under the leadership of Pauline White, who is an amazing educator, and the school is very lucky to have her. It runs a number of specialist programs, including performing arts, instrumental music and Australian Rules football. It has not been lost on me, in the time since I was preselected and have had the opportunity to revisit that school, that it is definitely showing its age. Having been built in the 1970s, it is desperately in need of upgrade, and I am delighted that we will see that happen under this McGowan government. We have made a local commitment to build a brand-new gymnasium for \$4 million, and a \$1 million upgrade of the existing performing arts facilities, which will allow the school, its staff, parents and students to fully meet their aspirations. I am very excited about being able to deliver that in the next few years.

The second aspect I want to speak about today is a commitment we made during the campaign to the Wanneroo District Netball Association. Old members—no disrespect intended—would probably remember that the member for Girrawheen brought a grievance into the last Parliament on that subject, and it was an important grievance. It highlighted the neglect of that important facility in our northern corridor. The Wanneroo District Netball Association has over 5 000 players every weekend—mostly girls, obviously. I found it quite amazing that only about half a dozen toilets are provided for the thousands of girls playing sport. I found it amazing also because, back in my days at Wanneroo Secondary College, I played netball there too, and I have old photographs of me playing there, with the facilities in the background, and nothing has changed, even though we are now in 2017. It is quite extraordinary. I am delighted to have been working with the member for Girrawheen, and we have made a commitment to the netball association that we will deliver much-needed upgrades to that facility.

Those members who do not understand the importance of this should look at it from the perspective of a mum or dad watching their daughter play netball on a weekend. Imagine turning up, along with thousands of other players, and parking is an issue. They arrive maybe five minutes before the netball game is due to start, and then the 10-year-old daughter says, “I need to go to the toilet first, mum.” And then she sees the queue for the toilets. It is inconceivable in this day and age that we have that kind of set-up for a major sport for girls, and one of the biggest netball associations in the state, servicing the northern suburbs. I also acknowledge the work of the committee and the board of the Wanneroo District Netball Association particularly under the stewardship of the president, Judy McInerney, and the director of facilities, Malcolm Wright. I thank them for the opportunity to get to know their organisation better and to better understand the needs of that facility. I am looking forward, as the member for Wanneroo, to being able to support them in the future.

I am not sure whether members are aware, but a couple of weeks ago, over the long weekend, the Smarter than Smoking association weekend took place. This is an occasion on which thousands of girls and women from across the state get together to play netball. The Wanneroo District Netball Association was represented in that carnival, which went over the three days of the long weekend. To show the size, scale and significance of the Wanneroo District Netball Association, it fielded 16 teams in that competition. I think it was one of the biggest associations represented over the weekend, and I am sure that members—and the member for Bicton, who I know loves her netball—would be delighted to know that, of those 16 teams from the Wanneroo District Netball Association, nine made it to the finals, and achieved four victories in the grand finals. It would be nice to know how some of the other districts in the southern suburbs went. I am not suggesting that I am going to start a healthy netball competition between the northern and southern suburbs, but I am happy to oblige. We have made a commitment to provide \$500 000 towards the upgrade of the toilet facilities and change rooms, and I will be happy to report to this house on the progress that we make in that regard.

I have talked about a specific area in education, and I have spoken of the specific area of sport, which I am passionate about, not as a netball mum, but as a volunteer for the sporting communities in my electorate. The third area I want to touch on is the environment, to which I have always had strong ties in my local area. In particular, I want to take this opportunity to chat for a couple of minutes about Lake Nowargup. Many members in this house

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might ask, “Lake Nowergup—where is it?” I have to confess that, even though I have lived in Yanchep since the 1970s, and travelled along Wanneroo Road thousands of times in my life, going to school, or working or shopping, it was not until about 12 years ago that I actually discovered the lake, because nobody actually knows it exists. When driving along Wanneroo Road, Lake Nowergup cannot be seen physically. It lies about 10 kilometres north of Joondalup and is significant. It is the deepest permanent lake in the metropolitan area, yet hardly anyone knows about it. I find that quite extraordinary.

The reason I got to know about it a little more over the last eight years is that as part of a community campaign we were alerted that a mine was going to be put right next door to it. I could happily talk for hours about the community campaign to make sure that that did not occur, but I raise this matter now because I am delighted to advise that during the campaign and that journey we were able to get a commitment from this government to try to rectify the fact that nobody knows that Lake Nowergup exists. The tragedy about things to do with the environment, unfortunately, is that when we do not know when something exists, we do not know when it is at risk. It is really important that we build up the public profile of Lake Nowergup so that people can not only treasure it but also enjoy it.

It is extraordinary sometimes to see developments in residential areas that tend to follow a cereal packet recipe in the sense that a symbolic park is included or an artificial lake is included because everybody likes water nearby where they live. These wonderful artificial things are built and afterwards local governments have to pay to maintain them, yet Lake Nowergup is less than a 10-minute walk from Alkimos and the whole urban sprawl development is happening in the north. Many local residents know that Lake Nowergup has the potential to become a regional open space for people to enjoy, but, of course, people need access to it. As part of commitments we made during the campaign, we have committed \$100 000 to make sure that we can improve signage and parking near Lake Nowergup so that people will not just drive past but park their cars and perhaps go for a walk around the place. With growing awareness of this beautiful, well-hidden jewel in the north, I am hoping in the long term that more people will share the vision of what locals know—that this is an absolutely beautiful, fantastic asset for the northern suburbs that people can enjoy for recreation.

In that regard, we tend to be a little adversarial in this place. I want to publicly put on the record a couple of things about the community’s eight-year journey to protect Lake Nowergup from mining. We made countless deputations to the local council and countless petitions to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council in Parliament. We had every minister and opposition member visit over years and years and years. Finally, after 1 437 days, we managed to actually protect it. I have to acknowledge the former Minister for Environment, Hon Albert Jacob, who finally assisted in that regard. A clearing permit had not been granted to the company involved, and it appealed that process. It was up to the former environment minister to dismiss the appeal, and he did so. For that, the local community thanked him, and I want to acknowledge that on that particular matter he made the right call. I am sure I will have many more opportunities in this place when I will be able to explain why the former environment minister has not done such a good job—I am sure the member for Bicton will help me out in that regard—but I want to place on record that for us locally in that instance, he finally came to the party after 1 437 days and dismissed that appeal.

[Member’s time extended.]

Ms S.E. WINTON: Finally, I want to talk a bit about congestion in the northern suburbs. Mr Acting Speaker, you may have noticed yesterday the front-page headline in *The West Australian* about congestion, particularly in the northern suburbs, and the amount of time that we all spend in our cars. It is a health issue, a family issue and a productivity issue. Since having been elected to this place, I am also experiencing it firsthand, and, quite frankly, it can sometimes take me up to an hour and a half, if I am unlucky, to travel from where I live in Nowergup to this chamber. I well understand the circumstances that face the lady in Alkimos mentioned in the newspaper yesterday who I think spends some 600 hours a year in a car.

The Labor Party and this government did not learn about this matter just yesterday. During the entire election campaign, particularly in the northern suburbs, one of the key issues we heard time and again was congestion, and the fact that not enough was being done about it. I have no doubt in my mind—the results and swings we obtained in the northern suburbs in the election show this—that what was to be done about congestion was a key issue for people. Imagine, then, my delight and the equal delight of my fellow northern suburbs members, when the pre-election commitment was made for the Mark McGowan government to divert funding from Perth Freight Link to the northern suburbs. I remember that the federal finance minister said on 12 March that the funds could not be redirected. On the ABC on 20 March, the Prime Minister himself, who may or may not come to visit us some time soon, said it would be absurd to reallocate the funds. I am very delighted that our Premier, Mark McGowan, and our Minister for Transport, Rita Saffioti, have been able to achieve what seemed impossible or absurd—to get that money and redirect it into much-needed congestion-busting projects in the northern suburbs.

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I would like to take the opportunity to highlight three of those very quickly. One, of course, is the dualling of Wanneroo Road between Flynn Road and Joondalup Drive. That will now progress. I am really delighted we have a commitment for that to be done. It is a \$30 million commitment to dual that very important and deadly piece of road. The second congestion-busting project that is now fully funded and will proceed within this term of government is the two overpasses at Ocean Reef Road and Joondalup Drive. The Ocean Reef Road overpass will cost some \$45 million, and I am delighted that that money is coming into the northern suburbs to not only fix the congestion, but also provide much-needed investment in local jobs.

The second overpass that I want to finish with is the one that will be built on Joondalup Drive. There was a lot of talk during the campaign, and there has been since we announced it, about whether there is a need to progress with the Joondalup Drive overpass. I want to explain to members that this overpass is absolutely needed. There are those, including my predecessor, Paul Miles, who say that we do not need it because once the freeway goes through, it will be null and void and all the congestion will be taken off the roads. It kind of explains why he is no longer the member for Wanneroo, because such statements do not recognise that the bulk of the congestion is in the east–west traffic flow. It is the people who live in Banksia Grove, Carramar and Tapping who want to travel from east to west. The suggestion by the former member that they will travel north to get to the freeway entry point and then head south is quite bizarre to me and does not make sense.

I also want to explain to people that the overpass of itself will not be the solution to congestion, and we acknowledge that. As part of our platform, we have committed to form a reference group that will ensure that the overpass is designed and built in conjunction with hotspots on Cheriton Drive and also at the roundabout at Burns Beach Road and Joondalup Drive, because we need to fix the whole east–west corridor in one go. I commit to making sure that we do that in a constructive, holistic way.

I have noticed more recently that the former member and also the predecessor in the federal seat of Cowan have suggested that we do not need the Joondalup Drive overpass and that it is a waste of money. I would like to place on the record a joint media release by Luke Simpkins and Paul Miles on 15 March 2016, which states —

Both MP's are pushing for key infrastructure projects to get the green light, such as a flyover for Wanneroo Road, crossing Ocean Reef Road, ... and an underpass for the Joondalup Drive/Wanneroo Road intersection.

I am not quite sure what happened in the northern suburbs under the Liberal government, because while those members were in government, there were banging on that the overpass was needed but they could not quite deliver it and could not quite get a commitment from their government to build it. They realised that they failed because they got turfed out and now that they are commentators on the sideline with, I hear, aspirations to get into local government, they are saying that the Joondalup Drive overpass is not needed. They are a little confused, because when they were in government, they wanted to achieve it but did not quite get there with their federal counterparts. We have, and I am really pleased about that. I congratulate again the Premier and the Minister for Transport for looking out for the northern suburbs. It is fantastic.

Finally, I want to quickly touch on an issue that was also important to the northern suburbs prior to the election. I acknowledge that a couple of petitions have been lodged with the Legislative Assembly on this matter. It relates to the horse beach that was closed by the City of Joondalup. I am really delighted that these people have sought recourse from this government and I very much look forward to the parliamentary process of this fortieth Parliament that allows us the opportunity to revisit that position, given that those people have petitioned us. I look forward to debating that at some point in the future. For those members who do not know, there are not many horse beaches around and the one in the City of Joondalup was a very important horse beach to the equine family in the northern suburbs and from as far afield as Swan Hills. We must retain in the northern suburbs an area for people with horses to exercise their animals. We are not absolutely sure why the City of Joondalup closed that beach, but I look forward to investigating why that occurred and what this government feels about that.

MR D.T. PUNCH (Bunbury) [11.25 am]: I speak to the second reading of the Supply Bill 2017 and, in doing so, I am proud to be one of seven regional representatives on this side of the house and part of a team that has the largest representation of people in regional WA and part of a team that regional WA has placed its trust in, with part of those 35 years of history working in regional WA. I speak to this bill because of the importance of providing continuity of government operations whilst the 2017–18 budget and appropriations are prepared and the importance of providing certainty and continuity of services to regional communities. The member for North West Central in his earlier commentary spoke about the impact of royalties for regions on the regions. Although I was going to speak about some of the issues affecting my electorate, I feel a pressing need to make some comment, because we have a financial legacy left by the previous Liberal–National government—a Liberal–National alliance government. What does that mean in practice? It means two teams, two party rooms and two treasuries—the state Treasury and the National Party room treasury. The state Treasury was managed by the state budget under the direction of the

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current Leader of the Opposition, and the National Party managed the alternative treasury through royalties for regions of \$1 billion a year. The problem was that the Liberal government kept spending as though royalties for regions did not exist, so two parties, operating as two independent teams in some form of alliance, were spending without regard to each other, with the Nationals particularly having complete disregard for the overall financial future of the whole of WA. That is why we are sitting here today debating the Supply Bill, because we have to review and look at what the next budget and the forward appropriations will be as we unpick that mess. There were two teams, with two sets of objectives, no common strategy and no collective interest or regard for Western Australia as whole, and that is why we are here today.

In looking at how royalties for regions was spent, we can see that the stewardship of the National Party is quite interesting. No wonder the member for North West Central was so happy with the work in his area, as \$34 584 per person was spent in that electorate. In the electorate of the member for Mandurah—I think the member for Dawesville also might come into this—\$1 153 per person was spent, and in the south west, \$3 028 per person was spent. What an unfair distribution across the whole of regional WA. Where are the future interests of regional WA?

We have made a commitment to the future of royalties for regions. We will focus on regional job creation, regional infrastructure, sustainable regional services into the future and regional safety. The previous Leader of the National Party thought that that was a recipe for putting a raid on royalties for regions and simply moving to a situation of cost substitution. In March 2017, he said that we would be raiding the royalties for regions budget and replacing it with normal government expenditure on things like roads. I had a quick look at some of the projects that are funded by royalties for regions, and what did I find? They include Marble Bar Road upgrades, the Margaret River perimeter road and upgrades to South Coast Highway and Pile Road. There is no doubt they are all good projects, but why criticise our proposals for improving road safety in regional Western Australia and say we are raiding royalties for regions funding and substituting normal government expenditure on roads when the National Party was spending on roads? In 2016–17, around \$70 million was allocated to Main Roads Western Australia for roads projects. I have no doubt they were all good projects, but do not criticise this side of the house if we look at regional road safety. I read the Western Australian Regional Development Trust's report. The body was set up to safeguard royalties for regions and ensure that funding is spent in accordance with the legislation. In advice to the minister in its 2012–13 annual report, it comments on the risk of substituting normal government expenditure for royalties for regions funds. In particular, it refers to moving the funding for the Department of Regional Development, nine development commissions, the regional development trust and the regional council across to royalties for regions funding. That is cost shifting. It might have been done for a very good reason. The explanation at the time was recognition of the growing pressures on consolidated revenue and growing debt, but it is cost shifting and, as such, it needs to be transparent. Nine development commissions, a whole department, a trust and a council were all living off royalties for regions. The National Party criticises this government although it has clearly engaged in the business of cost substitution for quite some time.

I come to WA Labor's "Plan for Bunbury". The difference between our side of the chamber and the other side is that we base our decisions on strategy. The "Plan for Bunbury" is a strategy for building prosperity in the electorate. I am very proud of this plan and the people of Bunbury were clearly very impressed with it because they voted for me overwhelmingly. The first part of our plan is an emphasis on local content and purchasing. I am very pleased that the previous government supported stage 1 and 2 of the Bunbury waterfront project. It is a longstanding Labor Party project from the 1980s under the Bunbury 2000 agenda. I was very pleased it was supported. I am even more pleased that, following the implementation of our policies around encouraging local suppliers, more than 75 local contractors and suppliers from Bunbury and the south west attended a briefing session on the redevelopment of the Bunbury Dolphin Discovery Centre, which is a major tourist attraction. For the first time, they had a line of sight for how to access contracts flowing from government into the local community and that is our strategy for Bunbury. Our strategy is to work in ways that bring new money into the electorate and into the city and keep it circulating there for as long as possible to build support for our smaller businesses, medium enterprises and local jobs. The Bunbury waterfront project is a great project and I was very pleased that very quickly after coming to government, the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food came to Bunbury and confirmed the government's commitment to stage 3 of the project. That generated enormous excitement in Bunbury because people can see that the whole project now has certainty. It has certainty for jobs in continuing construction and in the economic stimulus that the project will bring to Bunbury.

In our Bunbury plan, we refer to the Bunbury port. Bunbury port has been a fantastic asset. It is part of Bunbury's economic history. It has grown to provide for over 15 million tonnes of local export and import in the current financial year, which is an extremely good example. Some of the land surrounding Bunbury port has the largest potential opportunity for growing the port's use than I think any other port. It is a marvellous asset. Our "Plan for Bunbury"

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incorporates the Bunbury port into the state's strategic freight task. It looks at freeing up the port to pursue broader opportunities in the state's interest and in the interests of local jobs. That is great news for us.

Our strategy also embraces small business and we will work with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Bunbury to support local businesses in the CBD to create more of a sense of destination and attract visitors to the CBD to shop. That has been sadly lacking for people who have recently walked down the streets of the CBD. It has injected new enthusiasm into small retailers in the CBD and we will support that with a commitment to new signage towards the CBD. We will also create new opportunities for people who come to Bunbury to know where the CBD is and where they can find really interesting and innovative shops.

We also looked at the Bunbury community's needs as a growing city. Bunbury Hospital at South West Health Campus has faced pressures of enormous growth. I am really pleased that we have given a commitment to grow the number of beds in the hospital to 200. This will enable patients to remain in the hospital and not have to be transferred as frequently to other outlying hospitals for want of a bed. It will enable Bunbury hospital to meet the growing needs of a city that is increasingly playing an important role for our state.

We have also examined and committed to a strategy to deal with meth. In the lead-up to the election, members on the other side looked at simply the issue of enforcement of penalties for dealing meth. We came out with a comprehensive strategy that looks at the supply and usage sides of meth. It gives positive options for users to deal with addiction and educates people about the risks of addiction as well as dealing with the issue of supply. I am very pleased with the recent news that seems to take the focus off Bunbury as the meth capital. It was never a deserved reputation. It was a city that was dealing with a major problem. I want to acknowledge the work of people like Julie Kent and Lina Pugh through Doors Wide Open. They have done so much to bring focus to the needs of addicts and their families for positive treatment options. I am very pleased with that.

Sport is another area that we have examined as part of our "Plan for Bunbury". We know that sport plays an absolutely critical role in every electorate to engage people, support volunteerism, build teamwork and build leadership. It makes such a positive contribution to our communities. Our "Plan for Bunbury" clearly indicates detailed support for the Hay Park sporting facilities. We committed to working with the City of Bunbury to improve those facilities over the next four years and make sure that they are fit for purpose as far as possible. I went into changing rooms that had water running through gaps in the ceiling and where people could touch water pipes and get electric shocks from them for want of electrical servicing. The City of Bunbury is starting to address those issues but they highlight a major lack of investment in some core sporting infrastructure and we will address that.

Many members on this side spoke about the value of the local jobs, local projects initiative for our electorates. I am very pleased with the commitments that we have made for our areas, including improving sea safety. Bunbury is surrounded by water on three sides and we will make commitments to improve radio servicing from the Bunbury and Districts Power Boat Club. We have committed to supporting the Bunbury Sea Rescue Group with additional navigation and radio equipment. We will continue to work with those groups to ensure that, as far as possible, the coastal areas around Bunbury have adequate radio servicing and coverage.

We will also be supporting the Ice Breakers program. That is a marvellous development. It is funded through the police and community youth centre, and it will be providing an outreach service into Carey Park that will engage directly with at-risk youth and encourage and involve them in thinking about the risks of addiction and addictive behaviours.

While I am speaking about Carey Park, I would like to acknowledge the work of Karen Turner, who has worked with me and the City of Bunbury to look at improvements in an area that has long been neglected. Through our local jobs, local projects program, we will be committing funding to support the improvement of Kelly Park as an area in which families and children can recreate. Forrest Park, which is another major sporting facility in my electorate, has suffered from long years of neglect. We will be supporting Forrest Park to undertake important plumbing and electrical work to bring the clubrooms up to standard.

Bunbury Bowling and Social Club is an enormous asset for older people in Bunbury in particular, but it also has a growing membership base from younger people. Bunbury bowling club has long wanted to provide more shaded areas, and also access for people with different abilities, including wheelchair access onto the bowling green. We will be supporting that club through local jobs, local projects. That is a terrific outcome.

Leschenault Community Nursery will be another beneficiary of the local jobs, local projects program. That organisation has been doing fantastic work in propagating native species and on civic rehabilitation projects throughout the south west. More importantly, it comprises groups of volunteers from all walks of life—people who need to work for the dole, people who have different abilities and want to volunteer, and people who need support. Leschenault Community Nursery not only helps ensure that we have continued access to good quality propagated species, but also provides a venue for people in need.

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These projects are designed to bring new life into the City of Bunbury and take the city forward on a trajectory that was started by Bunbury 2000. However, we will be doing that on the back of a budget that will be for the whole of Western Australia, will incorporate royalties for regions, will spend money wisely, and will look to the future. That budget will be built by one team, with one vision—a McGowan Labor government—not two teams with two party rooms operating two distinctly different budgets. Thank you.

MRS R.M.J. CLARKE (Murray–Wellington) [12.12 pm]: I stand here today to speak on the Supply Bill 2017, and also as a representative of the strong south west contingent of Western Australia Labor. I am very proud to say that people said I would not get here, but I am here—and now that I am here, I am planning to stay!

Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE: One of the things that I have found in my first few months as the member for Murray–Wellington is the feeling of neglect, of not being heard and of being ignored that has been experienced by many of my constituents. Many people have come into our office or contacted our service and have said that nothing has been done in the electorate in the past eight and a half years. It has been sad to see the number of people who want to speak to someone or have someone listen to them.

In my region, we have a wonderful community of volunteers. As a regional area, we rely on our volunteers. I have recently been to two volunteer award ceremonies in my electorate, and I would like to acknowledge some of the winners of those awards.

Last Friday night, I was privileged to go to the annual volunteer awards ceremony at the Shire of Harvey. The evening had just started, and I was sitting at the table, and a lovely lady and her husband came up to the table, and she said to me, “I think there’s been a mistake; I don’t think we should be sitting at this table with an MLA and the shire president”. I said, “Well, your name is here; please take a seat”. As the night went on, we got to chat, and I noticed that her husband was wearing a beautiful swan lapel pin. I asked him what the lapel pin was for, and he said that is the pin that he received in 2014 for 50 years of continuous volunteering service. I sat there for minute in awe, and I thought he has been volunteering for as long as I have been alive! It was wonderful to have that conversation with this gentleman. As the night went on, this gentleman, Mr Bill Scott, was given the meritorious award for outstanding volunteer service. For the past 14 years, Mr Scott, who along with his wife resides in Australind, has dedicated himself to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, which provides clothing, food and emergency shelter for people in need. Mr Scott and his wife collect clothing and furniture, and every weekend they hold a garage sale at their house, and they use the money raised from those garage sales to buy food vouchers that they give to needy families. This couple was very humble about sitting at a table with a member of the Legislative Assembly and the shire president. They did not think they were worthy to be sitting at that table. I am sorry, but I did not feel that I was worthy to be sitting at that table with them, because what they have done in the last 53 or 54 years is absolutely outstanding. I acknowledge Mr and Mrs Bill Scott of Australind on their many years of service.

Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE: A few weeks ago, I went to the Shire of Murray’s volunteer awards ceremony. There were some outstanding nominees and winners at that ceremony, and I want to acknowledge a couple of those. The first is Robert “Bluey” Wilson. One thing that happens in the regions is that everyone has a nickname. Robert “Bluey” Wilson has completed 35 years of volunteer service for the Bunbury Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and the Bunbury Bush Fire Brigade in the Shire of Murray. He does this tirelessly. He does not ask for anything back. He is affectionately known in the region as Bluey; to the point that I had to think about what his first name is, because I know him only as Bluey. Bluey has contributed greatly to keeping the community safe from the threat of fires. He makes tough decisions under pressure and helps make the Murray community safe. His 35 years of voluntary contribution to the Shire of Murray is significant and worthy of recognition.

The winner of the award for sport and recreation volunteer of the year was another gentleman with a nickname—David Jones, affectionately known as Dingo. He has been involved with the Pinjarra Football Club for over 10 years. He has volunteered in a number of roles and now holds the role of team manager for all three football grades. He has made a fantastic effort, and, again, not many people know him by his first name—he is known as Dingo.

The most outstanding person on the night was Dylan Whale. I felt humbled to stand next to Dylan. Dylan has volunteered at the Pinjarra and Christmas festivals for over three years. That may not sound like a long time. However, this boy is only 12 years old. This is a significant achievement for someone so young. Dylan has also participated in the Shire of Murray Relay for Life team and has completed many hours of walking and assisting to raise valuable funds for cancer research. His commitment to the community and the Shire of Murray should be

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commended, and it was deservedly recognised at these awards. He is only 12 years old. Imagine what his future will be. He will be another Bill Scott. I can see that. His future will be fantastic.

I would also like to recognise the work that a group of grassroots members from the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union are currently doing in Canberra. This is a national group, with grassroots members from the manufacturing industries who provide representation from each state. About 12 years ago, they formed the National Skills Training Committee, under the leadership of Doug Cameron. I am very proud to say that my husband has been the chairman of that committee for the past 10 years. The group goes to Sydney and Melbourne about four times a year to meet and talk about skills and apprenticeship, and about how to keep TAFE active and in capable hands.

This week the committee has been to Canberra to lobby with all Labor and Liberal federal counterparts to ensure that apprenticeships and TAFE are looked after and that jobs and skills are first and foremost in parliamentary minds. I am very proud to say that it is doing a fantastic job. With all the union bashing that went on yesterday, the union does do great things for our workers and our community.

I need to acknowledge a couple of other people. On the Western Australia Day long weekend I had the privilege of having the Premier attend a couple of events with me. One of them was the opening of the Forest Heritage Centre's emu walk. If any members have been down to the Fremantle Markets, they would have seen a stall belonging to Wendy Binks, a renowned Western Australian artist, that sells her stunned emu designs—they are fantastic. She has created this wonderful emu walk at Dwellingup. The walk starts at the Blue Wren Cafe and goes for about 1.2 kilometres to the Forest Heritage Centre. Along the way Wendy has created these magnificent stunned emu designs, each one unique in its style. Premier McGowan and his family joined over 300 of us—the entire town plus outside people turned up on the day—to walk the streets of Dwellingup to the Forest Heritage Centre. It was such a beautiful morning. I thank Premier McGowan for spending that time with me. The chair of the Forest Heritage Centre, Sue Fyfe, and its manager, Shani Holster, were absolutely thrilled and overwhelmed by the fact that their event was attended by not only their local member, but also the Premier of this state who opened this fantastic walk. They admitted to me afterwards they were expecting about 50 to 80 people, but when word got out that the Premier was turning up, over 300 people showed up in the town of Dwellingup. It was absolutely remarkable and they were overwhelmed by the amount of support shown on the day. After the Dwellingup walk we had a brisk drive down the hill to the Pinjarra Festival, where Premier McGowan again joined me for a few hours and had the privilege of opening the festival. The chief executive officer of the Shire of Murray, Dean Unsworth, and its president, Maree Reid, were absolutely overwhelmed and enjoyed the fact that the Premier took time out of his long weekend to bring his lovely family down to Pinjarra to experience the wonderful Pinjarra Festival. The Premier admitted that he had been there over the past four years as a participant to just walk around, but they were absolutely thrilled to have him open the festival this year. Again, the people of Pinjarra and the shire were appreciative that the Premier attended that event. The feedback from my constituents on my Facebook feed has been overwhelming. It is really nice to see that the Premier is a down-to-earth, approachable Premier who people see as an everyday good bloke.

Point of Order

Mr R.S. LOVE: I understand that this is about the Supply Bill 2017 but I do not see any relevance at all in this speech. I know that members can talk about a wide range of activities, but surely they have to talk a little bit about the finances of the state.

Mr B.S. Wyatt: It is a general debate.

Mr R.S. LOVE: It is a very general debate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, there is no point of order. Could you please continue, madam.

Debate Resumed

Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE: Thank you. I am sorry I am upsetting the member.

In saying that, we have a couple of other fellows who are doing some wonderful work around volunteering and the Indigenous community throughout my region. Terry “Koodah” Cornwall and Mark Anderson from the Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health have worked in the community sector for the past 35 years. They have committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal people to redress the balance in health, education, employment, justice and life opportunities, and to enable Aboriginal people to be healing and leading contributors to the whole community in connecting people to caring for each other and caring for their country. I would like to acknowledge the work that they are doing.

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Along the lines of local jobs and projects, I would like to acknowledge a few that we have committed to and will be rolling out in the coming weeks. There is a desperate need for a skate park in the Australind region as there is very little for youth to do down there. The government is committing \$100 000 to help build an Australind skate park. The Brunswick River cottage stage 2 development is in desperate need of funds and its staff were thrilled when we committed to giving them another \$100 000 towards stage 2 and the completion of the Brunswick River cottage. The government has committed \$200 000 towards the Dwellingup town square redevelopment including the adjacent green precinct of the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway. This town is in desperate need of beautification and this money will help bring that town to life. We have also looked at the extension of the Shire of Harvey's library. It was quite funny because one of the ladies who works at the library as a volunteer was also a volunteer on my campaign. We made an announcement to commit \$100 000 to the Harvey library, and on the Monday after my election win she emailed me asking me when do they get their money—she was so excited that Labor took the seat of Murray–Wellington.

Another commitment of \$50 000 has been made to the Lake Clifton fire shed, the hardstand and roadworks, and also some work around the historic Lake Clifton lime kiln park. We have also committed \$50 000 towards putting in some outdoor lighting at the Leschenault Leisure Centre. The Pinjarra town centre is also in need of some beautification and a bit of development, so we have pledged \$100 000 to the Shire of Murray for that project. When we went to Ravenswood we had a street meet. Nearby was this old playground that the kids would not play on while the parents were talking to me. The parents told me that the kids do not like playing on it. After negotiation with the Ravenswood community group and the Shire of Murray, we were able to give them \$50 000 for a new nature play centre in that locality. We are also going to put \$100 000 towards the Ridley Place redevelopment in Australind. Our very special project in Waroona is its men's shed, which is in desperate need of an upgrade. We will be contributing \$100 000 to that project. Last but not least is the small community of Preston Beach—I absolutely adore the region—and its little hall. When I say little, it is tiny. That community has been doing so much fundraising. The shire is putting some money towards the hall and the community got a little bit of royalties for regions money, but it was just a little bit short to finish off the community hall. All the community needed was \$50 000 and I was happy to oblige and give it that money.

I would just like to say that there are huge opportunities in our region for industrial expansion. Two major industrial parks in the region will create thousands of jobs if the right industries are developed and the community gets behind them—the Nambeelup and the Kemerton Industrial Parks. One is at the northern end of my electorate and the other is at the southern end. We cannot continue to rely upon the industries that we currently have in our regions because they are the major employers for our region and, at some point, if they decide not to continue, it will affect us greatly. We need to expand, to look outside the box and to develop these two huge industrial parks. WA Labor is committed to looking at and helping to develop these two industrial parks. This will also contribute to the electorates of the members for Bunbury and Collie–Preston. I feel that the electorate of Murray–Wellington is now the final piece of the puzzle for the south west because it connects so many electorates. If these two industrial parks get up and running, it will affect many electorates. I remember talking to people at the Peel Development Commission, who said that, as part of its long-term plan over 20 years, they expect at least 30 000 jobs to be created in that Nambeelup region alone. That will create huge opportunities for people in the region of Murray–Wellington. I would like to say to members today that we might be regional but we will not sit back and be quiet about it. We are going to speak up and ask to be supported.

Talking about schools, it was very sad to sit in this place and hear that schools are getting wonderful gymnasiums and performing arts centres. Meanwhile, my poor Pinjarra Senior High School, which has approximately 800 students, has for 20 years to this day been fighting for an undercover area under which its students can eat. There is nowhere to conduct an assembly. The school has to hire the Murray Leisure Centre from the shire and teachers and students have to walk across a main road, carrying their own chairs, to have an assembly. In wet weather, it just does not happen. In hot weather, it is terrible to have to walk that distance. I heard that students at Como Secondary College had to walk 200 metres to get changed. The students at Pinjarra Senior High School have to walk a lot further just to go to an undercover area for an assembly. At the moment, I am in talks with the Minister for Education and Training about this issue. It may not happen this term, but going forward we are looking at a plan for that school. With the development occurring in the region, that school will have 1 100 students in about two to three years. We really need to be looking at these regional schools. These areas are now being developed and more people are coming into them. The farming lands are getting smaller and more housing developments are occurring in these regions. We need to cater for the expansions in our schools, hospitals and community services.

MR S.J. PRICE (Forrestfield) [12.31 pm]: I rise to contribute to the debate on the Supply Bill 2017. I acknowledge the announcements from the Minister for Planning this morning on aged-care development within

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the Shire of Kalamunda. It is certainly well overdue and very much appreciated. On World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, it is certainly very pertinent.

One of the things I was told when I first came into this house was to learn parliamentary procedure. Over the last couple of days we have been very fortunate to receive a very good lesson on what the Supply Bill means. Courtesy of the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Carine, we had quite a lengthy debate about what this bill actually is. It was quite surprising that we had to take so long to explain to them what we are debating here and why, because the material that is provided with the bill explains all that. I will start with the second reading speech. Part way into it, it states —

... the intent of supply is to give authority for expenditure from the commencement of a new financial year pending the passage of the consolidated account appropriation bills.

That is pretty self-explanatory. Further down the page, it states —

To support the late timing of the budget, the Supply Bill 2017 provides for interim appropriations out of the consolidated account to fund the core activities of government agencies until the passage of the annual appropriation bills.

That, too, seems to be quite self-explanatory. The section of the explanatory memorandum, which explains clause 4 states —

This clause authorises the Treasurer to use the moneys granted under Clause 3 for the purposes of funding any services pending those services being voted by the Legislative Assembly during the 2017–18 financial year. By convention, and as recognised in the Second Reading speeches of previous Supply Bills, the services to be funded are the works, services and purposes approved either under the most recent Appropriation Acts, or one that is not provided for by an appropriation by an Appropriation Act for that year as approved under section 27(1) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

As the Minister for Mines and Petroleum said, it does not approve any expenditure. The bill approves a supply of money that is being sought under the previous bill that we debated—the Loan Bill 2017. I thought that was very interesting and I thank the members on the other side for seeking so much clarification on that. It is a shame that it took eight and a half years for that to become evident, but I suppose when we look at some of the activities of the previous government, it may explain a bit.

The people of Forrestfield were very excited about the recent funding announcements for commitments we made during the election campaign, in particular, two major infrastructure commitments to fund road intersections. One of them might not seem that important to everyone, unless they are impacted by that particular intersection. That is the intersection of Hale Road and Woolworths Drive in Forrestfield. This is just a small intersection that gives access to and from the shopping centre in Forrestfield, but it is an absolute nightmare. This intersection has been discussed, and promises and commitments were made by former governments over the past eight years, saying that they would fix it. Even as late as last year, during the federal election, the member for Hasluck committed \$650 000 to fix this intersection. As with previous commitments to fix this intersection, when we look into the federal budget, what do we find? We find absolutely nothing. There is no money in the budget whatsoever to fix it. It was another hollow commitment from the federal Liberal government. Not only that but the state member at the time committed to match the funding. When we look for that in the budget, once again, there was no funding from the state Liberal government. For the Labor government to say that it has been able to repurpose some of the money from Roe 8 and seek additional funding from the federal government to fix that intersection is a welcome achievement for the people of Forrestfield. The fact sheet from Main Roads states —

- The intersection of Hale Road and Woolworths Drive becomes heavily congestion during shopping hours, particularly at weekends.
- Vehicles turning right into the shopping centre are required to cross oncoming traffic as no signals or roundabout are in place at this location. This creates a safety risk and adds to congestion on Hale Road.

The amount of \$900 000 has been committed to fix that intersection. There are probably two main ways we can fix that intersection. We can insert a set of traffic lights to control the flow of traffic in and out of the shopping centre or we can put in a roundabout. The first problem we would encounter by installing a set of traffic lights is that apparently Main Roads has a bit of an issue with traffic lights being close together. If it were implemented, there would be about 186 metres between that new set of traffic lights and the traffic lights at Strelitzia Avenue and Hale Road. Main Roads indicated that having two sets of traffic lights 186 metres apart on a main road is a bit too close. That might rule that out. The alternative is to put in a roundabout. That would be great, except some

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major power infrastructure is running very close to that intersection, and unfortunately there are no road easements. We do not have a great deal of room to construct a roundabout at that intersection. The third alternative is to possibly switch the lights and the roundabout by installing a set of lights at Woolworths Drive, taking out the set of lights at Strelitzia Avenue and building a roundabout there, because there is a little more room on the roadside. The problem with doing that is that we would go from fixing one intersection to fixing two intersections, and the cost becomes a lot more than necessary. The McGowan Labor government's commitment of \$900 000 to fix that intersection is certainly well received by local constituents.

The other major infrastructure commitment we made was to build a grade separation at Kalamunda Road and Roe Highway. Once again, unless people are impacted by this particular intersection, they will not fully appreciate its significance. After the conclusion of the fabulous Gateway WA project, which realigned the roads and put in some beautiful infrastructure around Perth Airport, some additional problems were created. We dealt with a lot of the congestion and traffic flow issues in the vicinity of the airport, but we pushed them out. Two bridges should have been built as part of that project and they never were. One of them is the Roe Highway and Kalamunda Road interchange. This is an \$86 million commitment, which is a significant amount of money. It reflects the size of the intersection that will need to be constructed. Roe Highway is one of the major transport routes in and around this great city of ours. The intersection of Roe Highway and Kalamunda Road is the last remaining signalised intersection on Roe Highway. That project will remove the congestion, which has a significant impact on the productivity and efficiency of the transport companies that use that road. This is also quite a dangerous intersection and, unfortunately, there have been a significant number of accidents there. Even worse, in the past couple of years a young child was killed at that intersection. The commitment of \$86 million to fix that is certainly, once again, well appreciated. I know that the member for Kalamunda is quite happy about it and a number of residents of Kalamunda also are extremely happy that that is going to be done. That is another great outcome for the electorates of Kalamunda and Forrestfield, and it is appreciated. Not only that; these two projects will create about 700 jobs between them while they are ongoing, which is a significant part of why those two commitments are extremely important.

I touch on the fabulous support I had from the volunteers and all the party members in general and also the branch members in Forrestfield during the election campaign. It would be remiss of me not to say what a great campaign the Australian Services Union and the Electrical Trades Union WA ran to save Western Power from privatisation. During that campaign they held a town hall meeting at High Wycombe. In the vicinity of 100 residents turned up to that meeting. The unions put forward a good case about why we need to maintain Western Power. I suppose I digress slightly because that leads a bit into the debate we had yesterday on the private members' business matter that was raised. One of those points was about the expenditure of union money on the Labor Party campaign. The point I never got to make, which I think is very important, is that the campaign that the ETU and the ASU ran was not to support Labor; that campaign was run to support Western Power. That campaign was run against the sitting government at the time. It was against the Liberal Party. The Liberal Party came out and said it was going to sell off 49 per cent of Western Power. That was going to equate to the loss of a significant number of jobs and that was going to have a significant impact on those particular unions. The unions' response was to get rid of the government to save Western Power. It was not to get the Labor Party in; it was to run a campaign against the government at the time. In addition, all the funds expended on that campaign by those unions had to be authorised by their branch and executive committees, and they were. As members well know, there have been quite a number of investigations, the most recent of which was the Trade Union Royal Commission. The management of union finances is front and centre of every union in this state and in this country and they have procedures in place and reporting requirements under the amendment to the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act that they have to abide by legally.

All that expenditure was authorised. If opposition members were wondering about that—they were, quite clearly, from the matters raised in the debate on the motion yesterday—the campaign was not for the Labor Party; it was against the Liberal Party. It was a very successful one, I must add. It certainly helped us pick up some seats that were going to be challenging for us. I am not saying that we were not going to get there anyway, but it certainly contributed to picking up some of those additional seats. On that issue, I would like to say that it has been a very enjoyable week and I have certainly enjoyed learning about parliamentary procedure. Thank you.

MRS J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI (Kingsley) [12.44 pm]: I rise today to give my contribution to the second reading debate on the Supply Bill 2017. Like many of my fellow colleagues in this place, I have been meeting with the schools in my electorate in the first few months since being elected and overwhelmingly they feel that they were neglected by the previous government over the last eight years. All three of my secondary schools—Warwick Senior High School, Greenwood College and Woodvale Secondary College—were built prior to 1985. All my primary schools, except for Greenwood Primary School, were built in 1990 or earlier. Yet as these school buildings began to age and technology began to evolve, these schools were neglected, forgotten and not upgraded, while schools in very close neighbouring electorates, some represented by members opposite, received significant

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investment. Take from that what you will. Only when the former government realised that the former member for Kingsley may not hold her seat at the election did it start making promises to pump money back into these schools in an attempt to buy votes in the electorate of Kingsley.

This money was to be given to the schools from the profits of the ill-conceived plan to sell the state-owned Western Power asset, but the people of Kingsley saw through this as too little, too late. They would not be fooled by the former government's attempts to rob Peter to pay Paul. I would love to promise these schools that we will be able to invest in the upgrades they require. However, from conversations with my schools, they know and acknowledge that we have to clean up the mess left to the McGowan government and that the finances are just not there to provide them with these upgrades. We do not have the money because we are cleaning up the former government's mismanagement of the state's finances. However, they are excited about the Labor government's focus on schools. They feel that the McGowan government is in touch with the issues that are important to schools and students. As a mum of a school-age child, I understand that we need to prepare our children for jobs that have not been invented yet and that the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines taught in these schools will be the drivers of those new jobs. The Labor government's focus on science and coding in primary schools is to be commended. That is the type of real, in-touch policy that we require from an innovative government. It is required to move our state forward into an exciting future and to ensure that we diversify and futureproof our economy to ensure that our children are equipped with the skills that will best serve them for their future and ours.

I am pleased that the Minister for Education has accepted my invitation to visit a number of schools in the electorate of Kingsley in September to see firsthand the good work, engaging programs and dedicated staff and students whom I am fortunate enough to represent in this place. On the topic of future jobs, I am relieved that this government will be implementing a local content for local jobs policy, because this will deliver jobs to the people of Kingsley. This is not just a pie-in-the-sky policy that Labor announced before the election. We will be delivering on this promise to the Western Australian people and creating real jobs. I am very excited that young people in Kingsley, and indeed across the state, will have the opportunity to train at WA's first Metronet trade training centre to be located in the very close electorate and suburb of Joondalup, which will train young Western Australians with the skills to build and operate our new public transport network. This move will ensure that the much-needed Metronet will be not only delivered in a timely manner to the people of Western Australia, but also built from high-quality local components made by locals.

I will read from an article in today's newspaper that goes to show that Labor's policies around job creation have increased the confidence in the Western Australian labour market. It states —

Western Australia has recorded a positive result in its unemployment numbers, recording the biggest uptake in new jobs around the country in May alongside South Australia.

Western Australia's unemployment dropped to 5.5 per cent, down from 5.9 per cent in April.

I think this is a fantastic achievement and a ringing endorsement of the McGowan Labor government's commitment to creating local jobs in Western Australia.

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Leader of the House) [12.49 pm]: I will make a contribution to the debate on the Supply Bill 2017, for about 30 seconds. I congratulate particularly the members from this side for their contributions to the debate. I think more members from this side than from the opposition have made a contribution to the debate, which is a very interesting point to note. I congratulate government members for raising issues of concern, given that the Supply Bill allows a general debate. I am very interested that opposition members did not take up the opportunity to speak, when there is a general debate, because it is an opportunity to raise matters of concern to their electorates. However, that is their choice. We look forward obviously to the Treasurer making a contribution.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I am dismayed to have to interrupt this enlightening presentation for further business.

Debate interrupted, pursuant to standing orders.

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