

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 28 November 2017]

p6179b-6200a

Mrs Robyn Clarke; Mr John McGrath; Mr John Quigley; Ms Cassandra Rowe; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Matthew Hughes; Ms Sabine Winton; Ms Jessica Shaw

APPROPRIATION (RECURRENT 2010–11 TO 2015–16) SUPPLEMENTARY BILL 2017
APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL 2010–11 TO 2015–16) SUPPLEMENTARY BILL 2017

Second Reading — Cognate Debate

Resumed from 9 November.

MRS R.M.J. CLARKE (Murray–Wellington) [7.42 pm]: I would like to speak about a few topics today as part of the debate on the supplementary appropriation bills. In the short time that this government has been in office it has already been able to achieve some great things in the regions and throughout the electorate of Murray–Wellington, providing it with some certainty for its future. This has included committing over \$50 million in this year’s budget towards developing industrial parks, with both the Peel Business Park in Nambeelup and Kemerton Industrial Park receiving funding. These projects will create tens of thousands of jobs for years to come. We have also provided long-term security for the first time for the RAC south west rescue helicopter, ensuring that people in the state’s south can be transported quickly when it is needed the most; and put in place a ban on fracking throughout the south west, something that the community had campaigned very hard for.

Since March we have seen the delivery of our election commitments as part of the government’s Local Projects, Local Jobs program. Through this program, the state government has been able to fund a number of worthy projects across the state. Within Murray–Wellington, these projects have helped communities expand facilities and services, with funding directed to a new playground in Ravenswood, a new shed for the Waroona men’s shed, an upgrade of the Preston Beach community hall, a hard stand for Lake Clifton Fire Station, a new skate park in Australind, upgrades to the Harvey Cultural and Recreation Centre, lighting for the Leschenault Leisure Centre, and a contribution towards the Brunswick River Cottages. Funding has also been put towards projects that will encourage tourism throughout the electorate, with money going towards developing facilities at the historic Lake Clifton lime kiln, redeveloping Ridley Place on the Australind foreshore, and the redevelopment of the Dwellingup and Pinjarra town centres.

Further developing tourism opportunities throughout the electorate is important, as this industry can create jobs and fuel the local economy. The area of Murray–Wellington covers some of the state’s most amazing natural landscapes, offering tourism experiences for all kinds of people. The towns within the electorate are also in prime locations for day trips and weekend stays as they are all short distances from Perth, Mandurah or Bunbury. Above all else, this electorate has stunning natural environments, and many of the area’s tourist attractions are based on this. At the southern end, Leschenault Peninsula Conservation Park offers plenty of fishing, crabbing and water recreation activities amongst dolphins and some beautiful wildlife. Leschenault, Australind and Binningup also sit along pristine picturesque beaches which are very popular amongst both tourists and locals in summer.

The south west is known for, other than wine, dairy and cows. This is made very clear in Brunswick, which is otherwise known as the “Cream of the South West”. Cows greet people on the town’s entrance sign, and the cow on the corner, Daisy, sits right in the middle of the town. It is also home to the Brunswick Agricultural Show, the biggest one-day show in the state. At the recent show in October, over 14 000 people passed through the entry gates. The town itself has a population of just over 1 000. The show is run by the Brunswick Agricultural Society, which does a fantastic job putting the show together each year.

There is a lot of history throughout the electorate, with Brunswick and Harvey both recognised at the Brunswick pioneer wall that honours the rich history of the area, and the war memorial in Harvey, which I would dare to say is the best memorial in the south west. Harvey is also home to some of the state’s best produce, including Harvey Beef and Harvey Fresh. This is showcased in the town’s annual Harvest Festival, which also shows the area’s distinctive Italian heritage to the wider community. Harvey is also home to one of WA’s “big” attractions—the Big Orange, which overlooks Harvey Fresh’s orchard. Sitting between Brunswick and Harvey is the small town of Wokalup. Like many small towns, the main attraction is the local pub. The Wokalup Tavern has over 100 years of history and is a very popular spot amongst the locals and those from the greater area. It also has the advantage of being next door to Harvey Cheese, another one of the region’s superb local produce outlets and tourism destinations.

The rebuilding of Yarloop will bring new tourism experiences into the region. The Yarloop workshops were internationally recognised as one of the most intact examples of early twentieth century railway workshops in Australia before they were sadly destroyed in the 2016 bushfires. Plans have been put in place to develop a workshops precinct, which may offer an insight into the town’s rich timber and rail history, and bring back tourism to the town.

Further north in the electorate, Waroona, with neighbouring Preston Beach and Lake Clifton, are small but unique towns, still very much tourism destinations in their own right. In Waroona, Lake Navarino, or the Waroona Dam, is one of the region’s best-kept secrets. Surrounded by forest and wildflowers, the lake is popular for recreational activities and for camping through spring and summer. Currently the town is also holding the Sea to

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ART Exhibition at the Waroona Visitor Centre, showcasing a range of works from local artists throughout the whole month of November. Also on at the moment is the Waroona Yarn Bomb, which sees the town colourfully decorated with yarn art. In October of each year the Waroona Agricultural Society holds the Waroona Show, a one-day event that brings in thousands of people from around the state. These community events help promote Waroona as a diverse town.

On the coast, Preston Beach is known for its four-wheel driving along the sand dunes and its fishing, plus it is close to a number of accommodation options. The beach is also surrounded by a very welcoming local community that makes visitors feel at home as soon as they arrive. Preston Beach and Lake Clifton are also part of the Yalgorup National Park, which contains one of the largest thrombolite reefs in the southern hemisphere, along with walk trails and an abundance of wildlife. Growing up, I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time in this area, so I am very aware of the positive impact that tourism has on local businesses and the community in these areas. One of the local businesses is the Lake Clifton Tavern, the iconic local pub that has successfully relied on predominantly drive-through tourists for many years.

The town of Pinjarra holds a lot of history, with the 125-year-old Edenvale Homestead in the centre of town. The homestead has a machinery museum and local artwork displays and is surrounded by the town's most beautiful gardens. It is also where the Pinjarra Festival is held. The Pinjarra Festival is a two-day free event held over the WA Day weekend that brings locals and people from Perth and the south west into the town. Within walking distance of the homestead is Cantwell Park, which sits on the Murray River and has become a popular location for events in the town, as well as being a tourism spot in its own right, with a suspension bridge that crosses the river. Pinjarra is also home to Peel Zoo, which has over 45 000 visitors each year. We also have the award-winning Pinjarra Bakery and Patisserie, which has some of the best pies and cakes in the state. More tourism opportunities are being created in the town. There are plans for the Exchange Hotel, which sits in the main street of the town, to be redeveloped, whilst retaining its heritage components. Built in the mid-1860s, the hotel's redevelopment will bring value into the town centre and it will become a tourism drawcard for the region.

Down the road in nearby Ravenswood, many houseboats travel up and down the magnificent Murray River, where sits a great local pub that has become one of the region's most popular gig venues. Every year it is home to the Ravenswood Hotel Chilli Festival, one of the few family-friendly chilli festivals that also has notoriously hot chilli-eating competitions.

Just north of Pinjarra is Fairbridge, another town that is known for its heritage. The historic Fairbridge Village is internationally recognised for its culture and environmental significance, and was recently the backdrop for a new film, *Three Summers*, directed by Ben Elton and starring some iconic Aussie actors. In the words of Molly Meldrum "do yourself a favour" and see this great film. It was filmed locally, and created local jobs and involved many extras from the region. Fairbridge Village is also the location of the Fairbridge Festival, which ran for the twenty-fifth year in April. The festival is the state's most popular camping festival and is unique in that it caters to a family audience and has a number of activities just for children.

The last spot, and arguably one of the most beautiful tourism spots, within the electorate is the town of Dwellingup. The town is the gateway to WA's jarrah forests and is a significant global hotspot of plant biodiversity. There is a huge range of activities and experiences in and around the town, including the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway, one of the few places in the state where people can experience a ride and have a meal on a vintage steam train. Every year Dwellingup holds the Dwellingup Pumpkin Festival, a unique combination of a school fair and a giant pumpkin competition, which this year had over 13 000 people in attendance. In 2018, this festival will be held on Easter Saturday and we expect this to be bigger and better. This event greatly benefits the local community, as all money raised goes to the Dwellingup Primary School Parents and Citizens Association. Also in the town is the Forest Heritage Centre, a not-for-profit centre that offers guided tours throughout the forest, as well as accommodation, educational tours, and art and craft workshops. The centre is also a place where local artists can sell their work to the public.

Just outside Dwellingup is Lane Poole Reserve, a very popular camping and recreation area within the forest. Situated on the Murray River, the reserve is also home to the Trees Adventure, WA's only obstacle course in the trees. The town is also surrounded by a number of trails that make the area a nature lover's paradise, including the 1 000-kilometre Munda Biddi Trail for off-road cycling and the 1 000-kilometre Bibbulmun Track. This government is currently exploring the possibility of making Dwellingup a trail hub for the state, which has the potential to further promote the town and the wider region as a tourism destination.

Spread throughout the electorate are a number of boutique wineries, craft breweries, local markets and distinctive cafes that would be seen only in a country town. This, alongside a range of accommodation options in each town site, makes the region an easy day trip or a weekend stay. The vast range of tourism opportunities within the electorate shows that there is a great opportunity to diversify the local economy by promoting this region. We

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cannot rely on one industry to keep these towns going forever. Investing in tourism is one way that we, as a government, can create jobs and provide economic certainty for the future of our regions. With the unique experiences around the region, it would be a waste of natural resources not to show it off to the rest of the country and the world. I encourage members in this place to stop and visit the small towns of our great state. We are fortunate to have such beauty and diversity in WA.

MR J.E. McGRATH (South Perth) [7.56 pm]: I am quite excited about what I am going to talk about tonight, and, at my age in life, I do not often get that excited! Electorates like South Perth do not get much funding.

Several members interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: South Perth gets very little funding from governments of either persuasion. I have found that Liberal governments spend very little money in my electorate. I have to fight very hard. I fought for 12 years to get an on-ramp to the freeway at Manning Road and it will be delivered by the Labor Party, but only because the federal government got involved, and it really wants to win the seat of Swan. The federal government has said to the McGowan government that it will give the government the funding as part of its plans for the future, but part of that funding has to go towards Manning Road. I am excited about that.

Tonight I want to talk about a story that was in *The Sunday Times*. I was briefed on this some time ago, but it has now been made public. The headline of the story on page 15 by Josh Zimmerman, whom I have never met but I think is a fine journalist, is “South Perth gets set to stun”. I liked that, because I am a modernist and I want my area to stun and be exciting. The newspaper has finally revealed that the City of South Perth has a very bold plan to turn the great Mends Street precinct, with the Mends Street jetty, the only area in the whole of Western Australia that is serviced by a regular commuter ferry service, into a tourism destination. I believe that this is great vision by the Mayor of South Perth, Sue Doherty, and the councillors, because they can see that, with the popularity of Elizabeth Quay and the fact that we will soon have a Ritz–Carlton hotel and other big hotels in that precinct, a lot more tourists will come to Perth. The Minister for Tourism tells us that jets will be flying down from Japan and China every day, bringing thousands of Asian tourists to our great city. We can make Mends Street, which is on the other side of the river from Elizabeth Quay, a place where tourists will want to go. I have been saying for some time that the new stadium, which will open in January, will be a huge attractor for tourists, but mainly football fans because AFL games will be played 22 weeks of the year, with West Coast playing one week and Fremantle the next. We will attract thousands of tourists from other parts of Australia who want to watch their teams play at the magnificent new stadium. I think we have to try to capitalise on this and make better use of the river. The shadow Minister for Tourism is back in the chamber now and I am sure that she is as excited as I am; indeed, what better place for tourists who come to Perth to spend some of their time than our magnificent Swan River? I have always said that the Swan River is very underutilised. Of course, people can go to the river and then to Rottnest Island and do trips to Fremantle, but we should have more hop-on, hop-off ferries around the inner city area.

Ms C.M. Rowe: Belmont?

Mr J.E. McGRATH: The City of Belmont is very keen to get a ferry service, even a commuter service. It is planning on more development; as the population grows, we have to build more residential developments. The City of Belmont spoke to us when we had a working party that looked at having more ferries. It is very keen. I have raised this issue with the Minister for Transport and I think she understands, but what comes first—the chicken or the egg? I guess we have to get the population there and then we can take a ferry to the population.

The City of South Perth has just released its master plan called “Connect South Mends Street”. As I said, it seeks to capitalise on Mends Street’s access to ferries and its uninterrupted views of the central business district skyline. Anyone who has been to South Perth has to agree that the best view of the city skyline is from the South Perth foreshore. The city skyline can be seen from Applecross and places like that, but the South Perth foreshore is opposite the city and there is no better view at night than the one from our beautiful South Perth foreshore. The City of South Perth wants to call it the civic heart and tourism destination. Part of the plan incorporates a new pier so that in addition to Mends Street jetty, another jetty will be built west of Mends Street jetty, meaning that there will be two jetties at Mends Street. I believe that there could be cafes and restaurants on the second jetty similar to what can be seen in Sydney at Woolloomooloo and those places at which all sorts of tourism attractions are built on jetties and old wharves. Upgrades will be done to Mends Street jetty, which is heritage listed. For some time it has been in need of an upgrade and that is part of this plan. The City of South Perth is also looking at alfresco riverside dining opportunities. Anyone who goes to Mends Street any time on a hot summer’s night or on weekends knows that thousands of people walk along the South Perth foreshore. The City of South Perth wants to make sure that if people are there, they can enjoy proper amenities and therefore enjoy their visit to our city. The Mends Street jetty upgrade will incorporate a boardwalk that will be connected to a piazza that will double as an events space. When people get off the ferry—the *Philip Pendal* or the soon-to-be renamed Shelley Taylor-Smith—there will be

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a piazza area that is an attraction to people. I can see that the Acting Speaker (Ms J.M. Freeman) is getting excited about the prospect of coming across to South Perth on a ferry.

Mr S.A. Millman: A ferry from Mirrabooka!

Mr J.E. McGRATH: She could catch the Metro Area Express light rail from Mirrabooka and get straight onto a ferry—that is a great plan.

The other thing that really interests me—I do not know who came up with this concept but I know that the city put it out to a professional company—is the concept of an animal parade; that is, a canopy of animals that will pay homage to the first animals that went to Perth Zoo. The animals will be a pair of lions, a tiger, four ostriches —

Several members interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: No pair!

There will also be two monkeys and an orangutan. That reminds me of a story that I heard. Perth Zoo has been there for over 100 years, so the first animals were taken there a long time ago. When the first elephant was brought to the zoo, it obviously had to come by ship from India or wherever it came from. It was unloaded onto a barge at Fremantle, brought up the Swan River and walked onto Mends Street jetty. South Perth residents and people from all around who knew that the elephant was coming lined the Mends Street strip as the elephant handler led the elephant up Mends Street and into Perth Zoo. That was a long, long time ago, but it is a part of South Perth's history and it is also a part of Perth's history because it is not called South Perth zoo, it is called Perth Zoo. These animals will light up at night and will be seen as far away as Kings Park, which will be fantastic. There are also plans for laser video projections as part of the precinct development in South Perth. There will be new play equipment, seating, shade structures on the foreshore, upgraded streetscapes and public art. It is important. The City of South Perth and the historical society would like Mends Street to be recognised as a place of great history. There are a number of heritage-listed buildings in Mends Street, including the old police station, which will be there forever. The post office is owned by the commonwealth and there is some dispute about whether it is still heritage listed. People are looking at that at the moment. There is also the old heritage house and the Old Mill theatre. All those places are heritage listed and, of course, one of my favourite places, the Windsor Hotel, is also heritage listed. The city believes that with proper lighting, people who walk down Mends Street at night will be able to see the heritage buildings highlighted similar to what is being done at Perth Stadium. These days the use of lighting can create a good visible aspect. Where will we get the money from? This is where I am about to speak very nicely to the new McGowan government. Stage 1 alone, which will be completed by December 2019 and will be at the end closest to Mends Street jetty, will cost \$7.5 million and will be partially funded by the City of the South Perth and its residents. I am a resident and a ratepayer. The city has also been guaranteed \$2.5 million in grants from the federal government. I have to compliment Steve Irons, the member for Swan, who advocated very strongly for this project. Through his hard work, he managed to get the \$2.5 million federal grant.

What I want to say tonight is that it is very important that the people of South Perth get involved. The plan is now out for public comment. Public comment closes on 22 December and it will then go back to the council. I know there is a bit of anxiety among the older and longer-term residents about too much change. People worry about change and what density will do to the area. I do not think the Mends Street project will greatly impact on residents who live in the area of Mill Point Road that goes down to the Old Mill. I think it will really enhance the Mends Street area in general.

There are already other plans for Mends Street. A six-storey building right opposite Cocos has started. It will include a restaurant underneath and some very expensive accommodation. I could not afford to buy one room in the four-bedroom apartment there. A 20-storey building will be finished in the next six months or so. People who have driven through South Perth will have seen that building. It is the next street down from the corner of Harper Terrace, the next one down on Mends Street. In the Mends Street triangle, on the site where the developers have had some problem with water, they wanted to build five storeys of car park underground and found that the water issues were too great. That building was going to be 37 storeys and would have been the tallest building in the precinct of South Perth. It now looks as though they might build only two 14-storey buildings. That is a bit of a shame because planners tell us that the higher the building, the smaller the footprint. Two 14-storey towers take a big footprint, but 28 storeys create a small footprint, so there is more room for airspace, visuals and people to move around the building. But at this stage it looks as though it will be 14 storeys.

I do not know how often people in the chamber go to South Perth, but in the Mends Street arcade there used to be an IGA store. That has been knocked down and is being rebuilt so there will be a new IGA supermarket with a Quest Apartments complex above it. I think a lot of tourists will come to Perth and stay at Quest Apartments. That will add to the vibrancy of the streets, the area and the local businesses, which have done it a bit tough of late due to the construction there. Once construction starts, it makes it difficult to get people to come because they are

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worried about parking and disruption in general. Once it is all finished, those businesses will benefit once again from the greater number of people who will live in and travel to South Perth.

I am very pleased to support the appropriation. The McGowan government is now in charge of the state's finances—the state's progress moving forward. I will speak to the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Tourism. I do not know whether any applications have been made by the City of South Perth, but I am sure they would have; the City of South Perth would have been talking to the ministers. I think it will be fantastic for tourism in Western Australia if the state government gets behind this development on the foreshore and builds a new jetty and upgrades the existing Mends Street jetty. In time, there will be more ferries on the river. At a briefing I was at, Department of Transport people indicated that eventually they might even be parking ferries in South Perth overnight because there will be more ferries. If more ferries are put on the run, there has to be more room for them to be parked at night, so even on the South Perth side, there might be ferries parking overnight.

I think the future is fantastic. I am pleased that the Minister for Transport is keen on seeing more activity in and around the CBD. I am pleased that the Minister for Tourism has a lot of vision for more people coming to our state and, more importantly, to our great city. I think the stadium will be a terrific boost for our city and for tourism. If we want people to come to Perth, we have to make sure they have something to do. We used to go to Melbourne quite a bit—not with the member for Swan—and people would say, “What do you do when you go to Melbourne?” My wife and a couple of her girlfriends used to go to Bridge Road because a lot of shopping outlets are there. People might say, “What do you do when you go to Perth?” I would like to think that people can say to tourists when they come to Perth, “If you get to Perth, you can jump on a ferry at a place called Elizabeth Quay, go across to the other side and find a place called Mends Street where there are cafes, bars and restaurants and, if you are really interested, you can walk a bit further and see the zoo.”

Ms S.F. McGurk: If you really want a good outing, go to Fremantle.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: Please! South Perth is very handy. They can see Fremantle on another day.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: They can go on the Midland–Fremantle line.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: Is Guildford in your electorate, member for Midland?

Mrs M.H. Roberts: Absolutely, Guildford.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: Eventually a ferry will be going to Guildford where there will be markets on Sundays, so we will all share in this great tourism boom, but I have to pitch for South Perth and hope we get the lion's share. Pardon the pun! Thank you.

MR J.R. QUIGLEY (Butler — Attorney General) [8.15 pm]: I want to take this opportunity during this appropriation debate to inform the house of the launch of the Snowdome Foundation in Western Australia in August this year. The Snowdome Foundation was formed in Melbourne and is a fundraising foundation that supports the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. It is the only public hospital in Australia specialising in the treatment of cancers. The Snowdome Foundation concentrates particularly on raising funds for the treatment of blood cancers. This includes myelomas, lymphomas, leukaemias and such like. As the chamber knows, I was stricken with a blood cancer in 2005. I was told at the time that it had no known treatment regime and that it was a very serious cancer—in fact, with more than likely a terminal outcome. I was referred to the Peter MacCallum cancer hospital where I had the good fortune to meet Professor Miles Prince, now the director of the Snowdome Foundation. At the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, since Snowdome was formed about 2010, many millions of dollars have been raised for specifically developing the area of genomics in cancer treatment—that is, to take a particular cancer cell and study its DNA make-up so that a personalised, targeted treatment can be delivered to the patient that will attack that particular cancer cell once it has been identified by the team at Peter MacCallum. Peter MacCallum cancer hospital is not only developing the genomics of cancer cells but also, linked with many companies around the world, particularly in the United States, is involved in the delivery of trial drugs.

As it happened, in 2005 when I went to Peter MacCallum, Professor Prince put me on a drug called depsipeptide. There were 10 of us on the trial and a little under half of us survived. It was a cutting-edge drug. I am now told it is a fifth-line drug. I was treated by infusion, but now that drug is delivered by tablet. Five more generations of different sorts of drugs have been delivered since then, giving wonderful outcomes for people, which I had with T-cell lymphoma. At that time, Professor Prince had just returned from the United States where he had been on sabbatical. When he was introduced to this drug in the United States, as I understood the situation, the Food and Drug Administration in America was approving the trial of the drug in 150 humans. Professor Prince was assigned a cohort of 10 for when he went back to Australia and I was fortunate to be in that trial of 10.

Each week I had to travel to Melbourne for the delivery of the drug, because it had to be controlled by Professor Prince. After about nine or 10 months, maybe more—I cannot remember now—Professor Prince got

permission from the drug company in the United States to have the drug infused into me at the Western Australian cancer centre located at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. That centre is run by Professor David Joske, who is a very gifted haematologist. I am pleased to announce that we in Western Australia are very fortunate that Professor Prince and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne have chosen Perth to be the second site in Australia for the Snowdome Foundation and its genomic diagnosis of particular cancer mutations and the specialist delivery of drugs to suit patients with particular mutations. We are very fortunate that Western Australia will have only the second hub in Australia. The hub in Victoria is run under the auspices of Professor Prince at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre hospital in Melbourne, and Dr David Joske and his wonderful team of haematologists at the cancer centre at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital will run the hub in Western Australia. It will deliver to all Western Australians cutting-edge world-class treatments for blood cancers. From my experience, I know that it was a really arduous task to have to fly to Melbourne every week for an eight-hour infusion. I would be as crook as a camp dog after that and fly back here for Parliament on Tuesday. However, all these cutting-edge treatments will be available for delivery at the Sir Charles Gairdner Cancer Centre in Hollywood.

The aim of the Snowdome Foundation is to raise \$10 million in 10 years, in concert with Maddie Riewoldt's Vision. Maddie Riewoldt is the late sister of the famous St Kilda footballer Nick Riewoldt and she was taken by blood cancer. Maddie Riewoldt's Vision, which was started by Nick Riewoldt and the family, won the inaugural charity award at the 2016 Telstra Australian Business Awards in recognition of its outstanding work. The Snowdome Foundation has been the beneficiary of a very generous gift by Mr and Mrs Bruce and Christine Wilson, who have pledged \$5.5 million over the next four years towards the target of raising \$10 million over 10 years for the genomic diagnosis of blood cancers. It is a very generous gift. Significant fundraising events will be held in Western Australia and I am pleased to announce that in March next year Mr Adrian Fini is hosting a major fundraiser for the Snowdome Foundation.

It is interesting that the Cancer Council of Australia raises funds for cancer research, but for only solid tumours. The Snowdome Foundation is concentrating on bloodborne cancers. Interestingly, bloodborne cancers, as I found out with mine, have no known histology. There is no known background or precipitating event that causes them, whereas, for example, cigarette smoke will precipitate the mutations that bring about lung cancer.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: Not always, because Bev Gallop never smoked at all and ended up with lung cancer.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: That is true. It is not in all cases, but there are known risk factors. It is the same with skin cancers; exposure to the sun will induce a skin cancer. But with many of the blood cancers, such as the sort that I was stricken with, T-cell lymphoma, there is no known precipitating factor for the mutation. The immune system just does not clear those cells. As Professor Prince said, it is a miracle that more people do not get these serious cancers because we have a billion cells in our body dividing all the time and it takes only one of these cells when dividing to cause a mutation that sets off the chain that leads to catastrophic outcomes for the patients.

With the advent of genomics, the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne has the ability to examine the cells, and a lot of it is done with very high powered computing and cutting-edge specialised laboratory processes and instrumentation performed by haematologist Dr Piers Blombery and his team of scientists and technicians and bioinformaticians at the molecular haematology laboratory in the pathology department. It is a specialised and high-powered unit at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, which is a brand-new hospital with 2 500 employees concentrating on only cancer. I think we can see how fortunate we are that the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre has chosen Perth for its second hub in Australia. Perth will have cutting-edge treatments available for blood cancers. Specimens will be taken and sent straight to Melbourne for diagnosis. The genomics of the cancer cell will be analysed at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre by the specialist scientists before the information is sent back to the cancer centre at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, which is, as I said, led by Dr David Joske. He and his very talented team will deliver in a public hospital setting—I stress that it is a public hospital setting—world-first cutting-edge treatments for blood cancers. I wanted to rise this evening to draw Parliament's attention to this issue and to recognise Professor David Joske. I still go there every six months for check-ups and I am familiar with his wonderful team of haematologists. Western Australians can count themselves very fortunate to have such talented haematologists down at the WA cancer centre.

I want to do a little plug. If anyone reading this evening's *Hansard* googles "Snowdome", they will find on the website a button whereby interested parties can donate to Snowdome. I stress that the millions of dollars that the public has donated so far are going towards an excellent cause in developing the genomics for the medical treatment of bloodborne cancers. Although childhood leukaemia is now regarded as a chronic illness that is treatable, lymphocytic leukaemia that people get later in life is absolutely deadly. Now there is hope on the horizon with the laboratories at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre being able to diagnose the actual DNA structure of the mutated cell and deliver very specialised treatment. I rise this evening to pay tribute to those doctors. I had the pleasure of catching up with Professor Prince when he came over here in August to launch the

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Snowdome Foundation and of sharing a meal with him and Professor Joske from the WA cancer centre. All power to them. I just want to acknowledge, support and give due praise to Snowdome and the treating scientists.

MS C.M. ROWE (Belmont) [8.30 pm]: I rise to make some comments on the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the big investments in my electorate of Belmont that have been announced by the McGowan Labor government. In September, the Treasurer and his team delivered a budget in very difficult circumstances. It was tough but fair. It delivers on our election commitments in Belmont and delivers significant investments in job-creating projects around the entire state. When I have been out and about in my electorate over the past few months, the feedback from residents has been overwhelming in support of the measures our government has taken to pay down the debt and restructure the state's finances for the future. People are reasonable. They recognise the situation that the state's finances are in, they acknowledge that the medicine for fiscal repair has been fairly split across the community, and they know that our government has a plan to put us back on the road to a surplus.

When former member for Belmont Hon Eric Ripper, MLA handed over the state's books in 2008, there was \$1 673 in total public sector net debt for every person in the state. At 30 June this year, that figure had grown to \$12 592 per person. I remember that Eric was often criticised at the time by some in the media and the public sphere for his conservative approach, but his final budget delivered an operating surplus of \$2.6 billion and total public sector net debt of just \$3.6 billion. This was also in the context of delivering infrastructure to the state, such as the Mandurah rail line and Fiona Stanley Hospital. It was also a very strong financial position to be in heading into the height of the global financial crisis. The state government in 2008 had the ways and means to invest in Western Australia because of its strong fiscal position. Before entering Parliament, I was a financial planner for an industry superannuation fund. I helped members plan for their retirement and invest for a rainy day. A rainy day is when something fundamentally changes; it might be some catastrophic health diagnosis, a redundancy, being laid-off or when funds are urgently needed to help a child or grandchild. A rainy day for WA is another global market failure or another big drop in iron ore prices. The reality of our current financial position is that the state does not have all the levers it had in 2008 to buffer the state economy. If there were to be another downturn or shock to the local economy, we would not have those same reserves to draw down on. Governments need to be able to respond to current economic circumstances, but it is also the responsibility of governments to plan for the future prosperity of the state.

I would like to cover some of the local projects funded in my electorate and talk about the fantastic commitment the McGowan government has shown to the people of Belmont. Firstly, our state budget includes the implementation of an important election commitment, including our plan for jobs and Metronet. It includes funding to complete the Forrestfield–Airport Link, with two new stations in my electorate. One station is currently called Belmont, but a survey was recently undertaken to determine whether residents want to change that name. We will wait to see the results of that. The second station in my electorate will be Airport Central. Metronet is a truly transformative public transport plan that will create thousands of new construction jobs and apprenticeships. I recently attended the Belmont train station precinct and toured the construction site and spoke at the commencement of the direct factory outlet construction nearby. These projects will drive lasting economic development in our area and will prove a big boost for local jobs for decades to come.

There is also funding in the forward estimates for a new performing arts centre at Belmont City College—we are delivering on our election commitment. Belmont City College offers a contemporary drama program. This investment will give local students the ability to learn in modern and up-to-date facilities, which only a Labor government has been able to deliver. This is important infrastructure for the school community and will ensure that our kids get a top quality education in facilities that support their modern educational needs. The new performing arts centre will feature stadium seating for more than 3 500 people, large screens and an open space for exhibitions, shows and performances. Students will be able to explore their creative and artistic talents in dance, theatre and music. They will thrive in these state-of-the-art facilities. Construction is due to commence in early 2020 and is expected to be completed by 2021. I am really proud of the Labor government for this initiative.

There was also plenty in the recent budget for schools, with 300 additional education assistants, 120 teachers and 50 Aboriginal and Islander education officers to be employed in WA schools over the next few years. Many of these will be in my electorate of Belmont. I know for a fact that my local schools will be absolutely delighted to have additional resources, especially with education assistants coming back into the classrooms. As a parent, I can certainly see that this is a really crucial support resource for not only the students but also teachers. I am very proud that classroom mental health support will be boosted, as the budget provides for 0.1 FTE of a level 3 teacher's time to help oversee the delivery of evidence-based mental health programs.

Significant funds are being invested in Belmont through Local Projects, Local Jobs grants. In fact, Local Projects, Local Jobs funding will be delivered to every public school in Belmont and to many of our local community

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groups, which have a real investment in our local area and community. I would like to highlight some of those commitments. The Belmont Districts Football Club—the Bombers—will receive \$80 000 to fund extra lighting, which is critically needed at its training facilities at Forster Park in Cloverdale. The club will also enhance and upgrade the current landscape, particularly for training in winter. The Belmont Cricket Club will receive \$35 000. That club also needs extra lighting and new astroturf for the cricket nets at the Peet Park training ground. The club also needs new scoreboards and extra storage facilities for equipment. The \$35 000 grant will go a long way towards improving the club's facilities for its players. They are really excited about this grant. The Belmont Park Tennis Club in Cloverdale has some of the most beautiful grass courts in WA. However, two of the hard courts require resurfacing. The \$31 000 that the government is committing to this club will go towards resurfacing the hard courts and upgrading the men's toilet facilities.

Belmont City College, which is the local high school, not only will get a new performing arts centre costing about \$5 million, but also has a commitment of \$80 000 from the government to go towards upgrading the gymnasium bathroom facilities. Hazelmere is also part of my electorate. The Hazelmere Hall on Bushmead Road will receive \$100 000 for upgrades. The entire community in Hazelmere will be able to enjoy those new facilities, which are well and truly overdue. The footbridge that links South Guildford to Guildford requires an upgrade, as it currently floods in winter, making it completely inaccessible. The funding commitment of \$150 000 will deliver a bridge that will be accessible all year round. The Belmont community gardens at Wilson Park in Rivervale are run by a local group of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers. They are passionate about sustainable gardening and bringing the community together. We promised \$10 000 to go towards garden beds and infrastructure for the group. That is already being delivered. The Belmont Men's Shed was promised \$20 000. That was to go towards additional wood and metalwork machinery. I am pleased to say that that has also been delivered and they are very pleased with their new equipment. The local residents at Redcliffe have been asking for barbecue facilities at one of their local parks, Selby Park. We have committed \$50 000 to put that in so that all residents around that area can enjoy the barbecue facilities.

The local Belmont Sports and Recreation Centre has approximately 670 members. It required additional closed-circuit television cameras in the bar area, both function rooms and the barbecue area. We have given \$50 000 towards that, as well as providing additional capacity to have electricity outside so if they wish to run a farmers' market or anything like that, they have the capacity to do so. Belmont Junior Soccer Club trains at Miles Park in Cloverdale. The club needed some fencing to protect particularly its young members who play in that area. The area is along some major roads, including Wright Street. I am pleased to say that I drove past recently and saw that that fence has already gone up. That \$10 000 has gone a long way towards making the park safer for young players. The Belmont Villa Soccer Club train locally at Gerry Archer Reserve in Belmont. The club needed additional storage for its sporting equipment. We committed to fund \$30 000 to ensure it was able to get the storage facilities it needed.

As I have said, we have delivered \$50 000 to every single state primary school in the electorate of Belmont. That includes \$50 000 to Belmont Primary School. That went towards new courts for all its students to enjoy. Also, \$50 000 went to Carlisle Primary School. I believe that is going towards upgrading its netball and basketball courts. Kewdale Primary School has been given \$50 000. It is going to develop a nature playground with that money. Cloverdale Primary School also received \$50 000. That will be used to purchase play equipment for two separate nature play areas at the school. Belmay Primary School received \$50 000 for a hard cover for its junior play areas so it can be enjoyed in all weather conditions. Rivervale Primary School received \$50 000 to upgrade its play equipment, including a slide and table tennis table. The funding commitment of \$50 000 will mean a playground upgrade that all students can enjoy. Redcliffe Primary School would like to cover one of its netball courts for weather protection. It was given \$50 000 towards that. It is fair to say that all the local schools were deeply appreciative of those contributions. The funding goes towards improving some facilities, whether in a small or a big way.

The state budget also included strong investment in community safety. That is all thanks to our wonderful police minister, who has been championing safety and trying to make sure we can address the meth scourge in our community. We were able to deliver on our commitment to extend the opening hours of the Belmont Police Station. During the election campaign, crime was consistently raised with me as a major concern for people right across the Belmont electorate. People wanted to see the police station open longer because it was only open until five o'clock at night. Because there is such an issue with meth across our community, people thought additional police resourcing, including extended opening hours, would be very useful. Many residents felt the previous government simply did not listen to their concerns and had done too little, too late to curb meth use and the associated crime.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup interjected.

Ms C.M. ROWE: I am just telling members what people were saying!

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Belmont Police Station is now open until seven o'clock at night. It has been since April thanks to the diligence and effort of our local police to implement that commitment. The recent state budget also includes \$300 000 to undertake security improvements to support the extended opening hours. Three different police stations—Forrestfield, Belmont and Canning Vale—are now open from eight o'clock until seven o'clock on weekdays.

Belmont residents are very supportive of the methamphetamine action plan. They will be pleased to see the measures in this budget, including: \$83.5 million for the meth border force comprising the recruitment of 100 sworn police officers and 20 specialised intelligence staff; \$3.8 million in funding for the WA Police Force to target roadside alcohol and drug testing, which will help keep our roads safe and support police to catch more people under the influence; and finally, the investment of an additional \$12 million for residential and community-based treatment facilities.

Funding of \$600 000 was allocated to commence the development of the Target 120 program to work with families to reduce the incidence of juvenile crime. This is a great initiative with strong support in my community. Most residents recognise the need to support vulnerable young people if we are to successfully divert juveniles who are getting involved in petty or more serious crimes. If we can help steer young people on the path to a productive life, there is a clear long-term benefit to our community.

I have spoken previously about the scourge of domestic violence and the need for governments to act decisively to reduce the catastrophic damage it causes in our community. I think it shows the commitment that the McGowan Labor government has to tackling this issue that in a difficult budgetary position, we are investing in the three pillars of prevention, further protections and prosecutions. We are delivering respectful relationship programs in schools as part of a primary prevention program. We are investing nearly \$1.7 million to expand existing culturally appropriate services to Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse victims of family and domestic violence. We are establishing two additional women's refuges, with work to commence in 2018. We are reinstating and expanding financial counselling services with an extra \$7.4 million in funding. We are funding the RSPCA to support its Pets in Crisis program, which will help the victims of family and domestic violence look after their pets. We have joined up with the national program Our Watch, which will enable the state government to leverage support through partnerships and access to research. We are planning funding to commence work to establish an additional behavioural change service to support perpetrators of family and domestic violence.

Finally, I just want to quickly cover another couple of local Belmont projects. One is funding for the completion of the building and construction industry training board's career information centre. The centre is currently under construction in Belmont. An additional \$2.5 million will be invested in 2017–18 to complete this project. The building and construction industry employs over 10 per cent of the state's workforce and nearly half of all apprentices, yet the industry struggles to attract enough school leavers with the right attitude and aptitude to meet industry recruitment needs. The career information centre will be a catalyst for inspiring interest in students, educators and parents about future careers in construction and will prove a real asset for the industry.

Importantly for Belmont, the McGowan government will provide funding certainty and security for the tourism industry. The industry is a major employer in my electorate and plays a really vital role in diversifying the state's economy and creating local jobs. Investing funds to lift the baseline budget of \$40 million per annum for event tourism means more funds for local events arising from opportunities presented by the new stadium. We are also investing \$200 000 annually to drive tourism and create jobs by promoting Perth Racing's Masters Carnival across the nation and around the world.

In closing, the recent state budget protects the emerging green shoots in our economy while setting us on the right track to budget repair. It delivers for Belmont with job-creating projects and investments, while investing in education, health and community safety to deliver on our election commitments to the electorate.

MRS J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI (Kingsley) [8.48 pm]: Thank you, Madam Acting Speaker.

Mr K.M. O'Donnell interjected.

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: Yes, I am. Don't you like hearing from me, member for Kalgoorlie?

Ms J.J. Shaw: Greetings!

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: Greetings, indeed.

I rise today to contribute to the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. As a member of four school boards, it is clear that I am passionate about education in general, and specifically about the schools in my beloved electorate of Kingsley. I would like to take some time tonight to highlight some of the recent achievements of my secondary schools and students in the electorate of Kingsley. In April this year, 10 students from Warwick Senior High School attended the World Congress on Public Health held in Melbourne. Three of the students were invited to

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present to the conference on the final day, being World Health Day. They were also invited to attend the next World Health Conference in Milan. Also in April the year 8 solar car challenge team from Warwick Senior High School, consisting of Kyle, CJ, Chelsea and Jack, participated in the grand final of Synergy's solar car challenge at Kings Park. The team came away with second place, beating schools such as Shenton College, Newman College, Duncraig Senior High School and Butler College. In August, the Greenwood College year 8 debating team won the grand final of the Western Australian Debating League novice division, competing against, and defeating, Lake Joondalup Baptist College, Duncraig Senior High School, St Marks, St Stephens, Governor Stirling Senior High School, Shenton College, Perth Ladies College and Perth Modern School. In September, Greenwood College specialist volleyball students participated in the WA volleyball schools cup. Eight of the school's teams made it through to semifinals, and of those teams, the year 7A boys earned a gold medal, the year 9B girls earned a silver medal, and the year 8A girls earned a gold medal. Greenwood College runs an extremely successful cheer and dance program, with two cheer teams, the Knights and the Titans. These teams have accumulated far too many awards for me to acknowledge here tonight, but in the most recent cheer and dance competition in November, they placed in every event they entered, including senior secondary jazz, first place for the Knights; senior secondary hip-hop, first place for the Knights; senior secondary level 2 cheer, Knights, second place; senior secondary level 1 cheer, Titans, third place; senior secondary lyrical, Titans, third place; and senior secondary lyrical, Knights, fourth place.

Students from Woodvale Secondary College's specialist soccer program are regularly picked for state teams as well as Perth Glory development teams. Warwick Senior High School student Brooklyn, from year 11, has been selected to attend the national science and engineering summer school for Indigenous students at the Australian National University in Canberra in December this year. Brooklyn is just one of 20 year 10 and 11 students selected from across Australia to attend this highly prestigious program, with students needing to show an interest in science, technology, engineering or mathematics, something very close to my heart. Woodvale Secondary College student Erwin Bauernschmitt won the WA Brain Bee championships held at the University of Western Australia in August. Year 10 students from 18 schools, including Lake Joondalup Baptist College and Sacred Heart College, participated in the WA finals for the Australian Brain Bee Challenge, which is designed to test students' knowledge of neuroscience and associated conditions or diseases of the brain. Erwin will represent the state at the national finals in Sydney in December.

Warwick Senior High School was one of five secondary school finalists, and as the Minister for Science told us today, is the runner-up in the Governor's School STEM Awards for excellent work on STEM accessibility for all students at all levels. Two weeks ago, year 8 Greenwood College student Ann Cao participated in the United Nations Youth Voice public speaking competition at Aquinas College. She presented an original speech offering her ideas about how to reform standardised testing in Australian schools. After her speech, she had to tackle impromptu follow-up questions from the judges. Ann has now been selected to compete at the state finals of the competition and, if she is in the top five students from the state competition, Ann will be invited to compete in the Voice national finals in Brisbane in April 2018.

Next March, year 11 student Nicola from Warwick Senior High School will head to Canberra as a member of the WA youth delegation attending the National Schools Constitutional Convention 2018. Nicola is just one of 15 WA students selected to attend. The topic under discussion is "Section 44: is it still relevant in modern Australia?" Section 44 of the Australian Constitution lists the grounds for disqualification on who may become a candidate for election to the Parliament of Australia. It should prove an interesting debate given recent events regarding dual citizenship!

Members may be asking why I am telling them all this tonight. Although I am a firm believer in celebrating successes, I highlight these achievements for another purpose. What is so astonishing about these successes is that they were achieved despite the physical constraints and the ageing infrastructure at these three schools. Staff and student determination to achieve and succeed is a driving force behind the successes I have highlighted tonight. Despite the total neglect by the previous government, these schools have been able to invest in students in other ways, and promote their successes, as can be seen in what I have highlighted this evening. Kingsley was previously seen as a safe Liberal seat, and the former member and the government as a whole took it for granted.

Greenwood College, built in 1975, a specialist volleyball and cheer school, has a gymnasium with a roof so low that the volleyball students cannot practice properly. The roof leaks, and the facility is so small that the cheer and volleyball teams cannot practice at the same time. Warwick Senior High School, built in 1981—a very good year if I may say so myself—has a specialist music and dance program, and is in desperate need of a new performing arts centre to house its talented musicians, dancers and actors, who next year will be split across three different buildings across the campus. Woodvale Secondary College, built in 1985, did receive a new gymnasium approximately seven or eight years ago, but the planning of this facility was so badly managed, it did not

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accommodate any toilet facilities. The Woodvale school community has been so desperate to see upgrades to the facilities on campus that the parent body partnered with the school board to fund a purpose-built training and storage facility for the specialist soccer program.

What was the former government doing during the economic boom enjoyed by the state of Western Australia? It certainly was not investing in the schools in Kingsley. It was not even looking after its own patch; it was so arrogant that it believed that a 14 per cent margin would never be eroded and so it ignored us. I am committed to advocating for the schools in my electorate and that is why I have already hosted the Premier at Greenwood College to celebrate its successes, and also to demonstrate in a very real and tangible way the restrictions of the ageing infrastructure and undeniable need for investment in not only Greenwood College but also all the ageing schools in the electorate of Kingsley.

I am excited that two of my schools will be receiving STEM funding to convert classrooms into dedicated science labs. This is much-needed investment in schools and I know the school communities are very excited about the funding and the McGowan government's commitment to STEM teaching in primary schools. With great pleasure, I will host the Minister for Education and Training, Hon Sue Ellery, in three of my local schools this Friday, and I am sure that the principals and communities will use this unique opportunity to add their voices to the strong advocacy I have already been undertaking. Maybe it was the former government's total lack of budgeting skills that sees us unable to properly invest in core business of government such as education. I have serious concerns about the former government's ability in this area, given that the member for Churchlands stood in this place and attempted to dress us down about our record in government over the nine months since our election. Unfortunately for the member, we had only been in government for seven months at the time. I feel that it is this type of disregard for details that may have got members opposite into trouble when it came to budgeting for the state.

As an urban planner, I have a keen interest in appropriate land use planning and the ability of the Perth metropolitan area to be planned and grow in a sustainable manner. For this reason, I followed the Metronet project very closely. I can see that Metronet is not simply a transport project; it is transport, housing, commercial development, and job creation. I will take a moment to talk about the job creation side. Of course, we will invest in the manufacturing of the rolling stock and the building and construction of the rail line, and then post build as a catalyst for job creation around transit-oriented development. My time at the City of Wanneroo gave me a unique insight into the requirements of the Yanchep area and the ability to leverage something like a rail line to increase job growth in the area. The Metronet team is a multilayered cross-disciplinary team that is providing bespoke solutions to each area, rather than subscribing to a one-size-fits-all solution. Metronet is also not just a train line extension, but a holistic transportation plan. The review of feeder bus services, especially the east-west services that connect suburbs east of the freeway to the heavy rail network, is vitally important to the electorate of Kingsley. This important and, frankly, overdue step will ensure that bus services are being used to effectively manage the transportation of commuters to the rail network, rather than replicating the rail line, which is the current practice. Not content to stop there, the Minister for Transport and the Premier have also committed to investment in principal shared paths. These paths are essential to closing the gaps in the cycling network, providing another avenue for commuters to connect to the heavy rail network and addressing the issue of the last mile.

Many constituents are shocked and concerned that under the previous government, the number of ministries and departments ballooned. With 26 ministers and many departments, much work was being duplicated in a costly and ineffective manner. The new machinery-of-government changes across the public sector are aimed at producing collaborative teams across government departments. In the past, department and director general key performance indicators were targeted and siloed. The machinery-of-government changes aim to bring more departments and teams to the table to provide holistic solutions and targets. In a recent public hearing with the director general of the Department of Communities, Mr Grahame Searle, when questioned about the machinery-of-government changes, he stated —

What we are now trying to do is to get away from that and have just sensible regional decision-making. For instance, when the old Department of Child Protection and Family Support needed to house someone in a hurry because of domestic violence and child protection issues, by and large Housing was not all that helpful because that particular cohort was not high on its list in terms of the people it houses. The department had to try to find other arrangements. Now it has been joined together with Housing, its first discussion is with the local housing officer, so it has actually changed the mechanics of how that works and hopefully there will be some sort of cost reduction, because they will be utilising existing housing rather than having to put people up in motels and a range of other things that has happened over the journey. That is one example. I will probably get this wrong, but we have something like three HR systems, four finance systems and three record management systems across the agency. Over time, as that gets resolved, there will clearly be both financial benefits and information-flow benefits. If we try at the moment to consolidate a set of accounts, it is a nightmare. Similarly, just to get a headcount of who is working in the agency is quite complex at the moment. As we try to rationalise those things, we will

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start to get towards a single response to a family's problems and an understanding of the multiple ways in which we can affect something.

This statement from Mr Searle goes to the heart of exactly what I believe the machinery-of-government changes were designed to do—that is, not only provide some financial benefit to the state, but also ensure that we have holistic decision-making around important issues such as women and children being displaced by domestic violence.

On Friday, I presented at the Economic Development Australia event into smart cities at which a number of attendees lamented that it seemed that over the last decade, the state government had lacked a clear vision for the economic development of the state.

[Member's time extended.]

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: It was with great pride that I was able to promote the McGowan Labor government's very clear and ambitious vision for WA. Let us start with our Minister for Asian Engagement. It is argued in many economic circles that Australia's neighbours to the north, east and west have growing economies, while Australia's economy is plateauing or declining. In Western Australia, we are well positioned to capitalise on the growth of our neighbours. It is for this reason that the McGowan government has appointed its first Asian engagement minister to ensure that the relationship between our neighbours and our economy is a strong one. One of the ways that we are looking to improve that relationship is through the hard work of our Minister for Tourism, who is promoting not only WA as a place to visit, but also direct flights between our Asian neighbours and our iconic tourism destinations such as Broome. I was very pleased that while I was at the Economic Development Australia event, a media release came through announcing that we would be getting a direct flight from Singapore to Broome. This is very important for a number of reasons. As the economies of our Asian neighbours grow, so does their disposable income. This disposable income will need to be used in a space where they can play. If we can position Western Australia as the preferred place to play, we can capitalise on the disposable income that will be created from the growing economies of our northern neighbours.

I think these sensible and proactive policies are driving the recovery in our economy. As we know, there is a three-year high in consumer confidence and a drop in unemployment numbers. I commend the McGowan government for its responsible outlook on the finances of Western Australia and its fiscally responsible look at repairing the damage to the state's debt.

MR M. HUGHES (Kalamunda) [9.07 pm]: I rise this evening to speak somewhat tangentially on the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. Members of the house will agree that expenditure on education in Western Australia is a significant part of the state budget. It is in the vicinity of 16 per cent or so of the state budget and is second only to health, which is in the vicinity of 29 per cent of overall expenditure. That is my segue to the bills. Members may recollect that in my inaugural speech, I outlined the importance of schools and the role that education has played in my life story as a pathway out of poverty and disadvantage. I know that both sides of the house recognise the importance of education, particularly the central role that the state has to play as the universal provider of education. Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." My hope is somewhat more modest. I hope to see education as the vehicle by which we can change the lives of individuals in our communities and, in turn, create better communities.

We all agree that access to education is a fundamental human right. We acknowledge that education is essential to full participation by each person in a civil society and to progress the advancement of a civil society. The right to education must be available equally and without discrimination to all people regardless of ethnicity, gender, background or geographical location.

The importance of education has figured in the sphere of public policy debate at the national level for decades. In recent times—I refer to the federal government from 2007 onwards—the Rudd and Gillard Labor governments introduced a suite of reforms as part of Building the Education Revolution program. These were broad, sweeping reforms that incorporated reviews into school funding and access to higher education, the adoption of the Gonski funding model and the introduction in 2008 of national standardised testing in literacy and numeracy—NAPLAN—notwithstanding my concerns about the current use of NAPLAN results. It included universal access to preschool for children in the year before schooling, a national census to assess child development in the first year of schooling, and expanded access to higher education. These major reforms were influential in broadening access to education and improving outcomes for students. However, despite these reforms it is unfortunately true that educational opportunities remain unevenly distributed. We know that this is true in metropolitan Perth where it is clearly evident that there is a strong correlation between postcodes—the place where a child lives—and ultimate educational achievement. We know that from our league tables and the grouping of our more elite schools on those tables. The advantage that one's place of birth and family gives in the educational stakes is evident from

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suburb to suburb in the metropolitan area. But the absence of a fair go and continuing education inequality in our rural and remote communities is still starkly evident.

I am honoured and somewhat flattered to have been asked by the Minister for Education and Training to take up the chair of the Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council, which has been in existence for some 20 years and has interesting terms of reference. Essentially, the council is to provide the minister with broad, evidence-based and solution-focused strategic advice on education and training issues and developments in rural and remote areas of the state. Equally, it is to provide strategic advice on educational services that give senior secondary students in rural and remote areas equitable opportunities for compulsory participation in education and training. Its remit is to advise about rural and remote community and consumer interest in education and training and ultimately ensure that strategic advice is provided from a cross-sectorial perspective across schools and training and higher educational sectors to encompass both public and private provision. In July this year, I was interested to attend—I would not say privileged—the launch of the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre’s report, “Educate Australia Fair? Education inequality in Australia”. The report was launched by one of the architects of education reform in Australia, Hon Julia Gillard. The report has made a useful contribution to the discourse on educational disadvantage and on the debate about rural and remote education. In my capacity as chair of the Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council, I wish to take advantage of the report in the council’s deliberations. It is a 124-page report that provides a substantial description of the state of play in the disparity in educational outcomes across Australia and it also provides figures for Western Australia.

The report makes the unequal distribution of educational opportunity abundantly clear. Put simply, it is manifest that many of our children and young people do not receive a fair go in accessing educational opportunities for no other reason than the luck of the draw in terms of their family background, demographics and geography. I do not have time to delve too deeply into this report and its comprehensive findings, but I invite members who have a particular interest in this issue to read this document. For example, the analysis in the report reveals that an Indigenous child is 40 per cent less likely to finish school and 60 per cent less likely to go to university compared with a non-Indigenous child. A child born in remote Australia is only one-third as likely to go to university as a child born in a major city. That is true both nationally and in Western Australia. I find that unacceptable. The gap needs to be closed. We must close the gap. The bridge between rural and remote and the disadvantaged in the metropolitan area and the advantaged children in our community has to be widened to something of a highway. If we do not do that, we will continually reinforce the disparities that exist in our community.

Evidence is all around us that the education reforms introduced by the Rudd and Gillard governments are being realised in a number of areas. For example, more children than before the reforms are accessing preschool, with positive outcomes flowing to child development, literacy and numeracy. But the application of the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre’s educational disadvantage index contained in the report, and on which the report is based, is a reminder of the level of inequality that exists in Australian and Western Australian communities and of the many children falling behind in educational access and performance. The key purpose behind the index, which underpins the findings of the report, is to uncover the extent of inequality in educational opportunities by locality to reveal hotspots of high or low educational outcomes and support the development of targeted and effective policy initiatives that improve our children’s school experiences and educational achievements. The index includes a number of indicators related to access, performance and outcomes, with data derived from the Australian Early Development Census, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, NAPLAN and the census of National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection. The index is used to map areas of relative advantage and disadvantage, profile areas of high and low disadvantage and assess key drivers of educational disadvantage. The 2017 report findings show that compared with most advantaged localities in Australia, children in those areas at greatest educational disadvantage are on average only half as likely to be enrolled at preschool at age four, only half as likely to attend preschool for 15 hours or more, and seven times as likely to be vulnerable on two or more developmental domains. School non-attendance rates are nearly five times as high, at 22 per cent, in areas of greatest disadvantage compared with areas of least disadvantage, and nearly half of young people in greatest need are neither learning nor earning after school.

On something of a more positive note, the report found that funding is largely distributed according to need. But what is absent from the debate on needs-based funding is a clear understanding of the extent to which funding changes proposed and now adopted under Gonski 2.0 will lead to improvements in educational outcomes. It is anticipated that they will, but the evidence is not there yet. The report’s findings draw out points in the educational journey where issues emerge and where a better policy response is required. This includes the need for greater emphasis on the early years and innovative solutions to the problematic transition from primary to secondary school, especially for Indigenous children, and tailored programs that target a number of equity groups not receiving the same outcomes as other children and young people. What is abundantly clear is that educational reform will need to go well beyond funding as a solution to address the complex barriers that impede our most disadvantaged and, therefore, our most vulnerable children and young people over the course of their educational

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journey, which for many is hindered and limited by the socioeconomic circumstances faced by their families. This requires an integrated agency approach across the whole of government at both state and federal levels. I know the Minister for Community Services is well aware of that need. The solution to the problems of disadvantage and educational disadvantage cannot simply rest with the Department of Education. It requires a strategic, interagency approach.

In Western Australia, not unexpectedly, geographical remoteness plays a large part in the mix of factors contributing to educational disadvantage. Western Australia's enormous land mass largely consists of remote areas with low populations. As we know, more than 80 per cent of our population is located in metropolitan Perth. The remote areas across the state typically have the highest level of educational disadvantage, with children living in these areas having less access to preschool, lower attendance levels and low performance in literacy and numeracy testing. Many of the remote areas across WA are also characteristically Indigenous communities, which tend to suffer multiple socioeconomic barriers and challenges. In metropolitan Perth, it is not surprising that the most advantaged areas are clustered around the Swan River and nearby Indian Ocean coastline, starting from North Fremantle and extending north to Hillarys. The fringes of the city reveal relatively high levels of educational disadvantage, from Rockingham in the south, Stirling in the north, along with Gosnells to the east of the city. What are the top 10 areas of relative educational advantage? In order, from top to bottom in Western Australia: Floreat, Claremont, City Beach, Nedlands, Wembley, West Leederville, Glendalough, Cottesloe, Mosman Park, Winthrop, Applecross and Subiaco. None of that would surprise members. Is there anything faintly familiar about the localities, members of the opposition? I think they are areas that they tend to still hold on to in this Parliament.

What are the bottom 10 areas, in terms of educational disadvantage? In order from bottom to top: Leinster, Leonora, Halls Creek, East Pilbara, Roebuck, Meekatharra, Derby, West Kimberley, Kununurra, Carnarvon, Roebourne and South Hedland. The most disadvantaged areas are located in the remote and very remote areas throughout the state, with Leinster ranked bottom, followed by Halls Creek, East Pilbara, Roebuck and Meekatharra. These are communities with high Indigenous populations, ranging from 18 per cent in Roebourne to 78.3 per cent in Halls Creek. The most advantaged areas in the state have an average of 0.4 per cent of the population identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Not much has changed, despite the educational improvements I referred to earlier. Only 40 per cent of children in the most disadvantaged areas in WA attend preschool for 15 hours or more on average compared with 70 per cent on average, nationally. Children in these areas also have high rates of developmental vulnerabilities, with one in two children assessed as developmentally vulnerable on one or more Australian early development census domains, and more than one in three developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr M. HUGHES: To summarise some of that, the report shows that the most disadvantaged areas in Western Australia and Australia, generally, are also characterised by low education participation, high rates of developmental vulnerability and risk, low achievement in national literacy and numeracy testing, poor secondary school retention rates and lower preschool attendance rates. Over four times the share of children are assessed as vulnerable, as I said, on at least one domain in the 50 areas of greatest educational disadvantage across the nation. That is 49.7 per cent compared with children in the 50 least disadvantaged areas, at 11.9 per cent. As previously mentioned, this rises to a sevenfold difference when looking at vulnerable children in at least two domains—33.5 per cent compared with 4.8 per cent nationally.

Average NAPLAN scores are typically between 150 and 190 points lower among children attending schools in the most educationally disadvantaged areas compared with the least disadvantaged. Nearly half the number of young people, 49.4 per cent in the lowest ranked areas, are not studying at age 17, compared with 2.5 per cent in areas of least educational disadvantage. Less than half, 47.3 per cent, complete any type of post-school qualification. Around the same share, 49.7 per cent of young people in the most disadvantaged areas, are not earning, studying or learning. This compares with 12.8 per cent of young people in the least disadvantaged areas. With respect to participation in higher education, the report acknowledges the substantial reforms to the Australian higher education system are designed to increase access and equity and, in some terms, there has been some improvement. However, there have been some marked gains, particularly with students with a disability as an equity group, which has seen the greatest expansion, followed by Indigenous students. Enrolments of students in regional and remote areas have increased by 32 per cent, and women studying in non-traditional areas by 21 per cent since 2000, so there have been some gains. However, as I mentioned earlier, it is a fact that Indigenous Australians are around 40 per cent less likely to complete year 12. Rates of entry to university are sharply lower for Indigenous Australians than for other Australians. Under-representation of Indigenous students in higher education is evident across each of the states and territories. The greatest barrier Indigenous Australians face in gaining a degree is not so much getting through university but getting to university in the first place. Low socioeconomic status students make up only 9.4 per cent of domestic enrolments in the so-called group of eight

universities compared with 16.6 per cent across other universities. Western Australia's higher education sector generally performs poorly in terms of accessibility for disadvantaged groups, with the lowest or near lowest equity ratios for Indigenous students, students from low socioeconomic and non-English speaking backgrounds, and students from regional and remote areas.

The commonwealth government recognises the interplay of factors that leads to the educational disadvantage faced by children and young people living in rural and remote communities and has commissioned the Halsey review. Professor Halsey, who is heading the independent review into regional and remote education, lists in the discussion paper that frames the review the nine commonly understood key areas that interplay in determining strong educational outcomes beyond resources channelled to schools. The nine important themes he points to and the issues, challenges and opportunities associated with them are curriculum and assessment, teachers and teaching, leadership and leaders, school and community, information and communications technology, entrepreneurship and schools, improving access, improving diversity and transitioning beyond school. The independent review is considering the key challenges and barriers that affect students' learning outcomes, including, as I said, transitions to and success in further study, training and work. The final report will be submitted to the federal Minister for Education and Training by the end of 2017, and I look forward to reading the report and its recommendations. It is clear that we need a better approach and polished response in pursuit of Closing the Gap, and this needs to extend beyond a focus on schools, though they have a key role to play.

The Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre report to which I referred identifies eight key pointers for improvement —

- Early intervention and outreach programs to expand access to pre-school education and care, making sure every child is receiving at least 15 hours a week in their year before full-time schooling.
- Increased resources and investment to support the first few years of schooling, effectively targeted towards equity groups at most need, and supported by appropriate metrics by which success in students' outcomes and achievements can be measured.
- Strategies to promote improved school attendance and student engagement, with a particular focus on the transition period between primary to secondary school.
- An expansion of programs and initiatives that drive greater school engagement among Indigenous students —

Across all phases of learning —

- Local community involvement in schools, and a school culture founded on a positive recognition of Indigenous students' needs, capabilities and identities.
- More universal and coordinated outreach programs to target increased access to higher education for equity groups, especially with reach into remote and very remote Australia.
- Support for more flexible pathways into higher education to broaden access among prospective students who don't take a traditional route from secondary to tertiary education.
- Community level responses to community-specific challenges.

The report concludes that more of the same will not do. The report argues that —

To achieve greater engagement, it is essential that the education sector innovates through the development of flexible learning environments that cater for different preferences and learning styles, absorbing new technologies that add to the education experience and building regional, national and global connectivity between schools.

The report finally states that —

No single service or stakeholder should bear the full responsibility for reducing the equity gap in educational opportunity. Alongside students, their teachers and the schools that provide their education, the role of parents and families, communities, and the business sector cannot be understated.

Based on the findings contained in the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre report, much more needs to be done at a national and state level to reduce educational disadvantage wherever it manifests, but, importantly, with the disadvantage faced by our rural and remote communities, where arguably it is most stark.

MS S.E. WINTON (Wanneroo) [9.33 pm]: Tonight I rise to speak to the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. I am delighted to be on at prime time on a Tuesday night in this wonderful chamber.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: We are all still here.

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Ms S.E. WINTON: I am delighted that the member for Dawesville is here; it is wonderful. I had not been hearing him much in the last couple of hours.

I said in my inaugural speech that I am very honoured to be part of this historic McGowan Labor government. Winning has been a real joy for many of us across the state. On the eve of bringing to a close our first parliamentary year, I cannot help but be reflective. I reflected on my inaugural speech and I want to repeat what I said then: if we do not effect real change for the good people of Western Australia who elected us, the McGowan win in March 2011 will be for nothing. The opposition challenged us a bit this year on our agenda and our work rate. I am quite proud of our work rate and what we have achieved this year. I am thrilled about the legislative agenda that we have brought to this place. I am also proud of the ministers of the McGowan government. Our Minister for Tourism has gone to Japan and China for the first time since 2012. It is quite extraordinary that it has been such a while between visits by a Minister for Tourism to such important markets for Western Australia. Our ministers are travelling far and wide to engage with our world and bring business and confidence back into WA.

I noticed earlier today that we got an “F” for fail from the member for Scarborough for our performance. I think members will agree that she was rather harsh when they listen to some of the things that I will take the opportunity to outline tonight during my speech. It is important to note that regardless of whether the member for Scarborough gives us an “F”, we will be judged by the people and not by the opposition. I also noticed in the member for Scarborough’s speech earlier today that she was a bit concerned about the travel kilometres of the ministers in the Mark McGowan government. I am happy to remind the chamber tonight that the northern suburbs—in particular, Wanneroo—have been very fortunate with the steady stream of ministers who have come up our way to help represent the northern suburbs again. To that end, the Premier has been to my electorate on a number of occasions since being elected—not on the campaign trail but just in the business of being a good Premier. I do not know about other members, but the Minister for Education and Training has visited my electorate twice already since becoming the minister in March. We have had the pleasure of the Minister for Agriculture and Food visiting Wanneroo. We have also had the Minister for Health in the northern suburbs at Joondalup Health Campus. In the last few weeks we had the privilege of hosting the Minister for Local Government at the City of Wanneroo.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: What about the Minister for Water?

Ms S.E. WINTON: I will go through my list. The member for Dawesville will be surprised. The Minister for Sport and Recreation has visited Wanneroo twice—once in his capacity as the Minister for Sport and Recreation and once as the Minister for Seniors and Ageing. The work rate of our ministry is extraordinary. The Minister for Water came to the northern suburbs as part of the recycling upgrades we are getting. The Minister for Transport and Planning has been up to Wanneroo a number of times to make fantastic announcements about infrastructure projects in my electorate, including two overpasses and the dualling of Wanneroo Road. They are fantastic job-creating projects that are much needed to ease congestion in the northern suburbs. As far as I am concerned, the ministers have done a fair few kilometres when they have come Wanneroo way, and I look forward to many more visits in the next three years while I represent the good people of Wanneroo.

In reflecting on the year, I have also felt extraordinary pride in a number of other things that have happened in this place and in this Parliament. I reflect on this every day that I walk past the Premier’s office—that is, the repositioning of the historic female members of Parliament portrait collection, which now hangs in pride of place outside the Premier’s office. It was moved from outside the men’s toilets, where it was for a long time despite the numerous and great protests by many former women parliamentarians. Every time I take a group of students past that very, very important group of portraits, I am delighted. They are in the right place in this Parliament. They are little things but important things that mean a lot.

I also felt extreme pride when I sat in this place and listened to the Premier apologise to the hundreds of people who were convicted under state laws that banned homosexual acts. This terrible form of discrimination ruined many lives. We have taken steps to right those terrible wrongs through the Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement Bill 2017. That is important legislation. I am also really proud and delighted that we have established a Joint Select Committee on End-of-Life Choices. We have started what will be one of the most challenging but important processes on an issue confronting this Parliament, and that relates to us considering in this place the need for laws to allow citizens to make informed decisions regarding their own end-of-life choices. Experiences in Australia and elsewhere show that this is a confronting task and one that is often ignored, but our government is not ignoring it. I am on the record as supporting end-of-life choices, so I am very proud to be in this fortieth Parliament, which will finally consider this most important issue. I stand very proudly to be part of that. There is a clear and overwhelming demand in our community for us, as parliamentarians, to examine this issue. Ours is a courageous government and we will do so.

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Another very important issue, which might be overlooked by others, is that of acknowledgment to country. I was absolutely stunned to come into this place and discover that we do not start proceedings by paying our respects to the traditional owners of the land. I am deeply honoured to be a member of a government that is righting this wrong.

Members on both sides would agree that Labor has an overwhelming mandate. This is a government of reform. It is a government that will take on challenging tasks, and will not take the easy way out. I would like to take a moment to talk about the bills that have passed or are in the process of passing this place. They are the hard things that the previous government just did not take on. It buried its head in the sand and pretended it was not a problem—nothing to see here; nothing to worry about; nothing to reform. Hence, the people of Western Australia told it how it is. It was a lazy government and it was out of touch.

Several members interjected.

Ms S.E. WINTON: We are finally taking on those things.

Mr S.A. Millman interjected.

Ms S.E. WINTON: I think I have woken them up a bit. It is good. How many more minutes have I got? Fantastic! The member for Dawesville was falling asleep; I am glad that I am stimulating him a little at this late hour. I think I am allowed to say that!

I want to briefly touch on the taxi reform our government is undertaking. It is not easy, but we are having a crack. That is what we were elected to do—to have a crack. I am looking forward to those taxi reform bills coming through this place for proper debate.

The government introduced the Western Australian Jobs Bill 2017. A critically important part of that legislation is the provisions for local procurement. The government is making sure that we do more than just talk about this; it is bringing about real changes to ensure that we support local businesses to get a fair share of the work that is going. I am confident that towards the end of our term in Parliament, we will be judged accordingly and that we will have created local jobs because local businesses have been able to get some of those contracts.

Mr S.A. Millman: Hear, hear! The member for Dawesville will be needing one.

Ms S.E. WINTON: Yes: 345 votes. He would probably like some of his local businesses to be getting some.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: It was 343 votes. You're being generous.

Ms S.E. WINTON: I would like to correct the record: I believe it was only 343 votes that the member for Dawesville won by. I am very generous by nature!

I would also like to touch on the local government reforms the government is undertaking. The Local Government Act 1995 is archaic; it is a dinosaur. Many of us in this place have been privileged to be councillors. We are looking forward to the opportunity to drive those reforms so that we make sure that our local government sector is the best it can be, including focusing on allowing better scrutiny of councillor conduct, local government transparency and, most importantly—this is something I am passionate about—local government voter turnout. Only about 20 to 25 per cent of eligible voters turn up to vote in some local government elections. That is not good for democracy and it is not good for public representation on councils. I am delighted that our local government minister is contemplating some trials of online voting systems so that we can try to increase the number of people who participate in the election process.

I wanted to take a couple of minutes to talk about something that will be happening in my electorate. Again, like the matters I discussed earlier, this is not an easy one to do but it is one that has been ignored for far too long. I am talking about our election commitment to establish the North Wanneroo Agriculture and Water Taskforce. I am delighted that the first meeting of this taskforce will be held on 8 December. Members would know from my previous contributions in this place that Wanneroo is considered to be a peri-urban area, but it also has a strong and proud agricultural sector with a long, proud tradition. To that end, the Wanneroo Agricultural Show is held each year. It is the biggest agricultural show outside the Perth Royal Show and was established in 1909. The most recent Wanneroo Agricultural Show was held very successfully last weekend. I have had a long-term association with the Wanneroo show over many years, in my role as a primary extension and challenge teacher no less, member for Dawesville. He would know all about PEAC—he did a bit of googling for another contribution in this place.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: I googled some fluoride in the water, too. That was a great video.

Ms S.E. WINTON: Yes. I have been involved with the Wanneroo show for a long time. In the last few years I have been on the organising committee. It was a most successful show on the weekend. I want to take a moment to recognise the organising committee of the Wanneroo Agricultural Show. Under the stewardship of Dot Newton, we have vice president Graham Gibbs, Michael Aspinall, Vince Berlingeri, Meg Birch, Patrick Burke, Angelo Canzirri, Joy Greenhalgh, Bernice and Bill Marwick, Rose Marinovich, Sue Omodei, Jenny Pell, Janelle

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Perkins, Noelene Teague, Rhonda Marinovich, William Fitzgerald, Teresa Livingston, and, of course, living legend Margaret Cockman, OAM. Margaret Cockman has had a longstanding connection with the Wanneroo Agricultural Show. The Margaret Cockman Pavilion is named after her. She is 85 or 86—I think she is 86. This year marked her seventy-first show in a row! That is not just her going along for 71 years, but her seventy-first show as a member of the committee and organising it. She was still there on Friday and all day Saturday doing her thing. She is the queen of Wanneroo—absolutely. It was a great delight to see her again. The Wanneroo show is held each year at the Wanneroo Showgrounds, which is an iconic place in Wanneroo. I am delighted that as part of this budgetary process we were able to get \$220 000 for much-needed upgrades to toilets. I think toilets are a bit my thing. They are an important public service.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup: Toilets are a bit your thing!

Ms S.E. WINTON: I have advocated for them at the Wanneroo Districts Netball Association, too, so I guess there is a bit of a theme happening. I am proud and delighted that the showgrounds will be able to attract even bigger events by having public facilities to match. I would also like to report that at the Wanneroo Agricultural Show this weekend, we were delighted to host the Minister for Agriculture and Food. She is the first agriculture minister who has attended the agricultural show in the 15 years I have attended. The Minister for Agriculture and Food is a breath of fresh air to the sector! The member for Swan Hills might be interested to know that under the previous government, there were four ministers for agriculture.

Several members interjected.

Ms S.E. WINTON: Yes, we did. In fact there were four ministers for agriculture during the Barnett government and three ministers in the second term.

Mr S.A. Millman interjected.

Ms S.E. WINTON: The member for Mount Lawley stole my thunder. The cabinet described by the former Premier was the one without enough horsepower, so they had to keep replacing them! They were obviously running out of a bit of puff, or whatever it is they run out of.

As I have highlighted in previous speeches, Wanneroo's agricultural sector is a significant contributor to the local economy and the state's exports.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms S.E. WINTON: The member for Dawesville is so delighted that I have an extension!

For example, in 2014–15 Wanneroo contributed \$147 million in gross value agricultural production, which is about 38 per cent of the total produced in the Perth region. This local industry provides a valuable resource of fresh vegetables and fruit for the Perth market. The industry is facing a number of issues including increased urbanisation, and limitations and uncertainty about water allocation. These issues are not new, members. These are issues that the previous Labor government took on in this fantastic report called "The future of east Wanneroo", which was released in late 2007. It was inspirational work driven by former member for Wanneroo Dianne Guise and former Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Hon Alannah MacTiernan. Little progress was made in the eight and a half years of the Barnett government. We held a forum during the election campaign. Hon Alannah MacTiernan was horrified to see the neglect of the sector and region despite the good work done by the former Labor government. The Liberal Party and the Barnett government had done no work to progress the recommendations of "The future of east Wanneroo".

My predecessor must have been well and truly in a death roll or something similar because, as the member for Carine has acknowledged in this place, "We knew we weren't going to win." At the last minute, the previous member for Wanneroo raised a grievance in 2016. He feigned outrage about agriculture in Wanneroo and how there was not enough water, despite having eight and a half years to do something. At the last minute, he formed a committee, which he chaired. It met three times and he did not even bother to show up to one of the meetings!

Our approach to Wanneroo will be a bit different, members. Let me take this opportunity to explain to the house our approach to solving difficult issues. Let us be clear: the issue around agriculture and water use in Wanneroo is not easy. I am not the type of member who will bury their head in the sand. We are going to give it another crack and see how we go. I can assure the house, and those who know me will agree, that we will be doing things very differently. I will be working collaboratively. I will be rolling up my sleeves and chairing this task force, and I will actually attend the meetings.

There is no question that competing interests around land use and challenging water allocation issues have beset our industry. We are going to get on with it. I am delighted to work with the Minister for Agriculture and Food, the Minister for Water and the Minister for Planning in a holistic way to drive a solution. We will consider options

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for water-efficient horticulture, impacts of climate change, ways to support new horticultural development, and creating land and water security to facilitate investment. The taskforce that I chair will report back to government by June 2018. We will not leave the sector, nor the landowners, hanging another eight years wondering.

I want to briefly touch on something that affects my community and my electorate a lot, and I know it does many others. The bushfire season is well and truly on us. I note that this weekend will be a hot one. Fifty per cent of the 5 000 fires started last year were on the urban fringe. Of course, my electorate is a 90 per cent fire-prone area. Last year, there were 268 fires in the City of Wanneroo. There is no question that Wanneroo is a highly vulnerable area. I want to thank and acknowledge the services of groups like the Wanneroo Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, the Wanneroo Volunteer Fire Support Brigade and the Wanneroo Joondalup SES Unit. They are in for a busy season but I know they will do a fantastic job protecting and looking after our community and its assets.

I was recently briefed by the minister about the brilliant work being done by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, particularly around the five-minute fire chat packages that are being rolled out to not only educate people more about the dangers of bushfires but also make sure that people are prepared this bushfire season. This wonderful initiative makes the previously complex task of creating a bushfire plan easy. Residents need to decide whether to be safe and leave early or be prepared to stay and defend. The resources available now are plain, simple to use, user-friendly and take a few minutes. I commend the department for its work.

I want to touch on two more things in the short time I have left before we conclude this evening, member for Balcatta. I will finish with the most important one that everybody has been thinking about today; that, of course, revolves around domestic violence. I, too, stood in solidarity with my fellow parliamentarians to promote the stopping of domestic violence in WA through the 16 days campaign. I wanted to mark that by being on my feet tonight. I started my speech by listing some of the things that I am really proud of as a member of this Mark McGowan government and I want to finish on our government's work and priority around this most important area of domestic violence. Our government was the first one to appoint a Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence. We have 22 policy commitments that show our practical and real commitment to doing something about an issue that has such a significant impact on the lives of children and women in our community in particular. Let us not forget that we are in crisis, members. Figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics reveal that family and domestic violence cases across Western Australia have reached their highest levels on record. Western Australia recorded the second-highest level of domestic violence in Australia.

I want to take a moment to recap and highlight a couple of statistics that particularly resonate with me and I keep reminding myself of. On average in Australia, at least one woman a week is killed by a partner or a former partner. I find it extraordinary that being killed by a shark seems to get more media attention than this sad statistic that occurs on a weekly basis in our country. These kinds of things should be on our front pages. It is quite staggering. Also, one in three Australian women has experienced physical violence since the age of 15. Again, this is a particularly poignant statistic for me. I have three daughters and I am being told that, statistically, one of my three daughters faces the prospect of domestic violence in her life. Of the women who experience violence, more than half that number have children in their care. I have teenage daughters. My eldest daughter is 21 years old and is a free and independent young woman. Eight out of 10 women aged 18 to 24—I will repeat that; eight out of 10 women, or 80 per cent, aged 18 to 24—were harassed on the street in the past year. Domestic or family violence against women is the single largest driver of homelessness for women. We must support no tolerance of any of that kind of behaviour, including in this place. There are 15 women members in the Legislative Assembly and seven women members in the Legislative Council. We have elected the first female Leader of the House in the Legislative Council and the first female President of the Legislative Council.

There is a theme developing around the work of the McGowan government, and it is a clear theme. It is based on our core values of fairness, justice and compassion. I am absolutely looking forward to being judged by the people of Western Australia on our performance.

MS J.J. SHAW (Swan Hills) [10.00 pm]: I am pleased to get to my feet this evening to talk about the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017, because there is an awful lot to speak about in Swan Hills, and a lot to be very excited about. There is one overarching theme that I would like to focus on this evening, and that is the commitment this budget makes to the young people in my electorate. Young people tend to be very disenfranchised. They are obviously not of voting age, and they do not have a voice. It is very important that, as parliamentarians, we acknowledge the needs of young people, and acknowledge great commitments to young people in electorates. Over the course of the election campaign and this year, a number of great initiatives have been committed to and delivered upon in my electorate, but the one commitment that is personally most significant is the \$1.86 million committed to the establishment of a youth centre in the Ellenbrook town centre. The Ellenbrook youth centre will provide youth recreational and support services from a dedicated facility located in the heart of Ellenbrook. It will be a safe space for young people to meet, and it will provide the base for service

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providers to deliver a range of support services. Both the services and the facility design will be developed in consultation with the local community and key stakeholders.

Ellenbrook is the major population centre in my seat of Swan Hills. In fact, two-thirds of the enrolled voters of the electorate live in Ellenbrook. At the 2016 census, Ellenbrook's population totalled nearly 38 000 people. Factoring in immediate surrounding suburbs, which includes part of the electorate of West Swan, between 50 000 and 65 000 people live in the immediate catchment for the Ellenbrook youth centre. The area has a disproportionately young population. The median age in Ellenbrook is 30 years, compared with the statewide median of 36 years. In Ellenbrook, 33.2 per cent of people are under the age of 19 years, compared with the state average of 25.3 per cent. The largest group of children is the five to 10-year-old bracket, comprising 9.6 per cent of the population, compared with the state average of 6.6 per cent. We have a high proportion of young people and young families. The population of Ellenbrook grew by 74 per cent in the period between 2005 and 2014, and doubled again in the period between 2015 and 2017. We have had exponential growth in that part of the world. The region's affordable housing options attract a high and rising number of young families. We have one public high school, with another under construction, seven public primary schools, one Catholic primary school, one Catholic K–12 and two private K–12 schools. The Ellenbrook area has a huge number of schools and a great number of young people.

The area experiences a range of socioeconomic and development challenges. We have disproportionately high rates of youth suicide, and drug and alcohol use. There is a lack of locally based youth mental health and counselling service professionals. Most services provided to Ellenbrook are not provided in place; people have to actually drive out or service providers have to drive in, but no services are locally delivered in place. Youth recreation and leisure facilities are very limited. There are a number of ovals where they can go and kick a footy, but not all kids are sports stars. Kids like to participate in a broad range of activities, and at the moment there is nowhere for them to do that. Primary and secondary schools are overcrowded, and the area has very low secondary school completion and tertiary matriculation rates. We have an issue with youth disconnection from community and place. That is a really important part of making a community liveable. We have a significant number of fly in, fly out families, with disproportionately high levels of unemployment as the economy undergoes a structural adjustment. We have rising levels of domestic violence, and children are often driven onto the streets because the situation is quite serious at home. There are some quite well publicised community safety concerns as well—a lot of low-level crime and antisocial juvenile activity, just because kids are bored. There is absolutely nothing for them to do.

We have quite a large culturally and linguistically diverse community, and a high Indigenous population, and there is a high degree of isolation—a significant distance between Ellenbrook and major employment, education and entertainment centres. Obviously, there is an abject lack of public transport options, which we are working really hard to address. There is also limited access to alternative education programs and pathways into training or employment, which is very important to kids at risk of exclusion from mainstream schooling. That is a growing issue in Ellenbrook, and we need to provide facilities and services to address that. Youth services are extremely limited. A very narrow range of services are provided by not-for-profit agencies on a drive in, drive out basis, as I mentioned before. I was very pleased, as part of our election commitments, to secure the extension of \$140 000 worth of funding to Youth Focus and Headspace for youth suicide prevention and mental health service provision in Ellenbrook, but there is not much else going on in that space. There is a Cool Room youth service, but it is basically a small meeting room at the back of a community hall, and it is available for only six hours a week. There is no public transport that enables kids to get to it, and it is in a bit of an inaccessible area of the town itself. Other than the public open spaces, no other general recreational or entertainment facilities are available for young people in the Ellenbrook area.

Recognising the pressing need for a dedicated facility for youth recreation and improved service provision, in February 2017, with the Premier, I committed the government to delivering a youth centre in the heart of the Ellenbrook town site, adjacent to the area's secondary school, public library, and major shopping centre, and right next door to the future site of the Metronet train station, for which I note earthworks are already underway. The Ellenbrook youth centre will be developed in partnership with local government, and will be a community-driven project. It is very important that we respond to the needs of the community and listen closely to the needs of young people in the electorate. The delivery of the Ellenbrook youth centre is intended to create a safe space for local youth to participate in a range of recreational activities. It will provide a hub for the delivery of holistic, multifaceted programs and support services. It will allow at-risk youth to access support services in a non-threatening environment. Doing the legwork on this project since I was elected and sworn in in March, I visited a number of centres. These youth centres work best where they are just general drop-in centres that kids can go to, where there just happen to be service providers. It is not an embarrassing thing for kids to seek out help; help just happens to be available. They can go to the youth centre, and there are counsellors and case management facilities, but kids do not necessarily worry about the stigma attached to them in reaching out to those services when they are already provided in place. It is really important that we acknowledge that and create the space for those sorts of things to happen.

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I also hope that the development of an Ellenbrook youth centre will promote innovative funding models for ongoing service delivery, and encourage new delivery and community partnerships. Locating it in the centre of Ellenbrook means that it will be a place where a range of different social groups and demographics can come together. Particularly in an area where we have had a bit of antisocial behaviour going on, it is really important that the broader community sees kids doing great things and recognises their legitimate place at the town's heart. It is really important that, as a community, we create the space for that to happen. I hope that the Ellenbrook youth centre will provide local youth with a connection to place, and that those young people will recognise their legitimate presence in the heart of the town, foster stronger links and greater understanding with the broader community and make a significant contribution to the overall vibrancy of the town centre—get some kids there, some activity, maybe a skate park or a basketball centre, and really activate the town centre. It is a great community, waiting for a heart. When we bring that train station into the area and finish the dense precinct around it, and the youth centre is in place, it will contribute to finishing off that community and making Ellenbrook a great place to live.

Depending on the scope of services delivered by the centre, it will assist the community to effectively address a range of social issues associated with youth mental health, juvenile crime, delinquency, education and unemployment. The youth centre will be located about 200 metres from the 24/7 Ellenbrook Police Station. Since coming to office, I have met very regularly with the officer in charge of the Ellenbrook Police Station. He is an absolutely fantastic guy and has a great team around him, and they are looking forward to supporting this initiative and proactively engaging and striving to build those relationships with young people. There is some great goodwill; in fact, there is considerable community support for this project. I thank the City of Swan for the level of engagement it has had with me on the project to date. I have had the privilege of engaging with a number of not-for-profit service providers as I have talked about the development of this project. It is fantastic that so many groups are willing to partner in delivering such a fundamental service in my local community. I am thrilled about the commitment that this government has made to young people in my area. It is long overdue.

The McGowan Labor government made another significant commitment to young people in my electorate but at the other end of the spectrum. It committed to developing a child and parent centre at Arbor Grove Primary School. Arbor Grove Primary School is in the centre of Ellenbrook. It is doing it tough; that school has had a bit of a rough trot. It has a great, strong community around it, but there is some quite significant socioeconomic disadvantage in that area. We have committed \$1.75 million to develop a child and parent centre at Arbor Grove Primary School. As I said before, the Ellenbrook area has a disproportionately young population, with 9.6 per cent of people in Ellenbrook in the nought to four-year-old bracket compared with the statewide figure of 6.5 per cent, while 9.3 per cent of people in Ellenbrook are in the five to 10-year-old bracket compared with the statewide figure of 6.6 per cent. There are a lot of young families, particularly in that Arbor Grove pocket, so there really is a need for a child and parent centre in that part of the world. In fact, the north-eastern corridor is the only part of metropolitan Perth that currently does not have a child and parent centre, and that is despite the overwhelming population growth and the disproportionate number of young families. There is a suburb that basically has been completely unserved. The absence of a child and parent centre is symptomatic of the approach that the previous government took to my community and my electorate. The fact that we are now delivering one is evidence of just how seriously this government takes servicing the north-east metropolitan area and making sure that we get the services and the facilities that we need.

A child and parent centre is for kids up to eight years old. The coordinators who run the centre work with families, local schools and the community to ensure that the program services and supports that are most needed in the area are easy to access. This includes the provision of early learning services, maternal and child health services, and child support activities. Depending on the needs of the local community, they can provide access to a range of health professionals, including child health nurses, speech pathologists and physiotherapists. As I mentioned before, the area has a high number of fly in, fly out workers and a number of single-parent families. A lot of parents and a lot of mums are doing it alone and it can be quite isolating with no public transport links. In an area like that, it is great to have parent groups operating and playgroups for kids to socialise. A child and parent centre will do a lot to provide good health outcomes for young people and to support young families and parents at a time when they can feel quite isolated and alone.

That is another fantastic initiative that has been committed to in my electorate for our local young people.

A number of Local Projects, Local Jobs commitments have also been made to schools in my electorate. I do not have children myself and one of the real pleasures for me, since I have been elected, has been going around to each one of the schools in the 980 square kilometres that the seat of Swan Hills comprises. We have schools ranging in size from 900 students at Ellenbrook Primary School, right the way through to 47 kids in total at Woorlooloo Primary School. We have some of the biggest primary schools in the state right the way through to some of the smallest at all points of the compass throughout my electorate. It is an absolutely beautiful place to call home. I visited every

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one of those schools, met with every one of those parents and citizens associations and made commitments to those schools to deliver the sorts of things that P&Cs in particular are not able to necessarily fundraise for effectively, but that I was very proud to commit to during the election and am now very proud to deliver to my local community as its local member.

I will run through the schools. At Anne Hamersley Primary School we have provided classroom information and communications technology infrastructure and a shade sail for its early childhood playground, and purchased library books. Rod Simeons is the principal there and is doing an absolutely fantastic job. At Arbor Grove Primary School, where Glen Purdy is the principal putting in the hard yards, we have put in playground equipment and a shade cloth for the junior playground. At Aveley Primary School, Michelle Murray is the principal. I had a lovely afternoon with Michelle, wandering around, especially in the kindy area; the kids were great fun. We purchased and installed shade sails across the playground.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms J.J. SHAW: It is the same with Bullsbrook College, a K–12 school in Bullsbrook. Bernadette Jones is the school's principal and it is a really good school. We provided a shade and shelter project for its junior school. A few weeks ago I went to an assembly at Chidlow Primary School, where my niece goes to school. I got very excited by its jump jam session. I thought maybe we should start Parliament off with a bit of a jump jam session; it could give us a bit of energy, because we all need some. We could probably do with some now. The great thing that we delivered at Chidlow Primary School is a stage. The students were working off wooden boxes that were built 30 years ago. The Local Projects, Local Jobs commitment has given the school a proper stage area that it can hold its annual assemblies on. I go along every year. I am always pleased to head along to Chidlow Primary School. At Eastern Hills Senior High School we have installed some library booths so that the kids can sit and perform teamwork in an ICT hub. At Ellen Stirling Primary School we have put shade structures up. I just want to commend the P&C association at Ellen Stirling. It advocated very effectively to me in the lead-up to the election on this issue. It has been fighting really hard for it and it did a really effective job. Dean Goldspink, the school's principal, is also doing a fantastic job. At Ellenbrook Primary School, Neil Macneil is its principal. We again provided shade to the nature playground and a gorgeous garden area around its new Anzac Day memorial. Ellenbrook, an independent primary school, makes a really big deal every year about its Anzac Day services. It has built up a lovely tradition. I am always very pleased to go along to that school; it is doing some great work. At Ellenbrook Secondary College we have installed a new playground area to help the kids who are in year 7 transition into high school. They are sometimes perhaps not that well equipped to be let run wild with a lot of the bigger kids. The school specifically requested that we assist it to develop a dedicated playground area for the younger kids. I am very pleased to see that project being delivered. At Gidgegannup Primary School—this is one of my favourite local commitments that we made—we contributed towards the development of a nature playground. Michael Kovalevs is its principal. Gidgegannup Primary School is just down the road from where I live. It is just a couple of kilometres, which in the hills is really close, and it is a gorgeous school.

At Malvern Springs Primary School, we have provided funding for exhaust fans for the undercover area. We have also provided funding to enable the school to upgrade the running track, so the kids can now knock themselves out on the running track. At Mount Helena Primary School, we have provided funding for some cricket upgrades, and a mural. The mural is fantastic. It is all about the school's "The Leader in Me" program. The program is about encouraging kids to demonstrate leadership ability. The mural tells the children's stories about the different ways in which they can demonstrate leadership behaviours and kindness to one another. That is a lovely idea. When we go to schools and hear about these sorts of projects, it makes us feel proud of the work that they are doing. It also makes us feel great about our job. It is great that we can help people do this absolutely amazing work. The kids are very proud of the work they are delivering. That mural is fantastic, and I commend Mount Helena Primary School for that initiative. I am probably a little biased, because Mt Helena is my home town, and I do love it up there.

At St Helena's Catholic Primary School in Ellenbrook, we have provided funding for shade sails over the nature playground. This is a pretty recurrent issue. I cannot tell members how many times parents have talked to me about the fact that their kids are going out to play in the blazing sun and they have no shelter. It seems like a small thing, but it makes a big difference to kids. These are the sorts of things that local members should be focusing on and delivering into our communities. When our parents and citizens associations speak to us about these things, we should do everything we possibly can to support them and to provide funding to enable them to deliver these sorts of initiatives. At Swan Valley Anglican Community School, we have provided funding for the purchase of early childhood play equipment, and more shade sails. At Upper Swan Primary School, we have funded an electronic signboard at the front of the school. The school is not in a suburban area but is located on Great Northern Highway. That signboard is a fantastic way in which the school can communicate to parents and the local community what is happening at the school. Again, that is a great initiative.

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At Wooroloo Primary School, with all its 47 kids, it was lovely to announce funding for playground shade sails and upgrades. That is something else that we have delivered into that community. Those are all great projects to support the kids in the electorate of Swan Hills. As a local member, I do not think there is much more important work we can do than to support and provide for the children in our communities.

Beyond the stuff we have given to schools, we have granted \$100 000 to the Mt Helena Residents and Ratepayers Progress Association for an upgrade to the Elsie Austin Oval skate park. I want to recognise the work of Joan Quinn in the residents and ratepayers association. She is an absolute force of nature. She works very hard for her community. She is always looking at ways in which to beautify the streets. One of the really exciting things that the Mt Helena ratepayers are trying to get up in the hills is a bilycart derby. They want to encourage kids to build bilycarts and race them up and down the hills. I really hope that comes off, because that would be an absolutely fantastic community event. I hope people will get behind that. A lot of the men's sheds in the hills could be put to very good use in developing bilycarts for the rallies that are planned up there.

I will now get to the facilities for middle-range young people. We have provided funding for an upgrade to the lighting at Chidlow Oval and Gidgegannup Recreation Club. We have also contributed funding for an upgrade to the Chidlow playgroup, which is at the other end of the spectrum. My dad built that building, and it was lovely to be able to go to that group, talk about their needs, have a look at my dad's handiwork, and know that his legacy will live on.

I was pleased this week about the announcement of the Science in Schools program and the fact that a science laboratory will be delivered into Sawyers Valley Primary School. The Science in Schools announcement was actually made at the Gidgegannup Primary School science lab. That program is very important. Young kids have a very open mind and everything is fascinating to them. That is the case for both boys and girls. If we can spark an interest in science at an early age and before the science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects become gendered, that may lead to a lifelong love of learning and some very exciting career development opportunities. In fact, last week, on behalf of the Minister for Women's Interests, I went to an Engineers Australia function that was recognising women in engineering—women in STEM subjects. It was amazing how many of those women talked about how their journey into scientific careers had begun because when they were very young, they had found something that they were fascinated in. The Science in Schools program is so important and I am pleased that one of those labs will be delivered to a school in my electorate. I hope that many others will be.

I really think that the budget delivers for kids in Swan Hills. Swan Hills has been neglected across a range of portfolios for a long time. In an area that has such a high proportion of young people, we really do need to turn our minds to what those kids out there need. I am proud to be part of a government that recognises and responds to the needs of families in my electorate. I am also proud to have so much to talk about that I could talk for hours, but I have only a short amount of time. For young people, I am proud that by the end of this parliamentary year, we will have kicked so many goals for my local community. I look forward to continuing to do so.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **Mr D.A. Templeman (Leader of the House)**.