



38th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Australia and Pacific Regional Conference

Report of Conference Proceedings

‘The Challenge of Urbanisation – Parliament’s Role’

Parliament House – Adelaide – South Australia

18 to 21 November 2019



Delegates pictured on the steps of Parliament House, Parliament of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide

The Parliament of South Australia is honoured to host the 38th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Australia and Pacific Regional Conference.

44 delegates and 6 observers from 20 jurisdictions attended the 3 days.

To paraphrase the Chairperson of the CPA, Hon Emilia Monjowa Lifaka MP, regional conferences such as these present an excellent opportunity for Members and staff to meet and discuss the shared values and experiences of parliamentary democracy in what is often a challenging and fast-moving global context. This is of pre-eminent importance to the smaller Legislatures and we are pleased that this conference has provided a further important opportunity for CPA Small Branch Members in our region to share knowledge, experiences and to strengthen the networks between us.

The theme “The Challenge of Urbanisation – Parliament’s Role’ proved an interesting focus for discussion of the role of Parliaments in confronting future challenges associated with managing the needs of communities in a rapidly urbanized world while maintaining support for those who remain in rural areas.

This Report of Conference Proceedings provides a summary of the key themes of each of the seven sessions of the conference including responses to questions.

Conference papers and presentation slides are available at:

<https://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/Other/CPA-Conference>

Thank you for your attendance and we hope that you enjoyed your time with us.

Hon Andrew McLachlan CSC MLC
President

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP
Speaker



Welcome to country ceremony



Hon Andrew McLachlan, MLC, His Excellency, the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC Governor of South Australia, Hon Vincent Tarzia, MP, Hon John Ajaka MLC, Hon Niki Rattle MP



Delegates observing plans for Bowden during their site visit

Tuesday 19th November 2019

9.00am

Welcome to Country Ceremony conducted by Micky Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien

9.30am

**Opening by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia
Elections**

Ms. Andrea Michaels MP nominated the Hon Vincent Tarzia, MP Speaker of the House of Assembly, Parliament of South Australia, as Chair of the Conference.

There being no further nominations Hon Vincent Tarzia, MP and Speaker of the House of Assembly, Parliament of South Australia appointed as Chair of the Conference.

The Chair provided opening remarks:

- thanking his Excellency, the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC Governor of South Australia for officially opening the conference,
- welcoming the delegates
- noting the apology of Hon Emilia Lifaka, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Cameroon and Chair of the CPA, who was unable to join the conference due to upcoming election commitments in Cameroon, and
- welcoming Hon John Ajaka, MLC President Legislative Council of New South Wales, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the CPA to provide opening address in her place

Mr. Michael Tatham, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of the Northern Territory nominated Hon Andrew McLachlan CSC MLC President of the Legislative Council, Parliament of South Australia.

There being no further nominations Hon Andrew McLachlan CSC MLC, President of the Legislative Council, Parliament of South Australia appointed as Deputy Chair of the Conference

Opening Address: Vice Chair of the Commonwealth CPA Executive Hon John Ajaka MLC President of the Legislative Council Parliament of NSW provided an opening address outlining some of the key future directions for the CPA including:

- the proposal to transfer the structure to a legislative framework under UK law
- initiatives to recruit for a Secretary-General.
- acknowledging the CPA as providing the framework for the important twinning relationships with the Australian States and territories and the Parliaments of the Pacific.

11.00am

Session 1: The Challenge of urbanization and parliament's role

Presenter:

Hon Stephan Knoll, MP Minister Transport, Infrastructure Local Government and Planning, Parliament of South Australia

Presentation summary:

1. The challenge of urbanisation and supporting sustainable growth:
 - a. Agriculture and mining are major regional industries, but SA has most of its population living in Adelaide

- b. Communities can be apprehensive about further growth, therefore it is important to develop social licence
 - c. Adelaide has a low growth environment and therefore can manage growth as it occurs (metro growth management provides certainty)
 - d. The way Adelaide city is growing is changing; e.g. over past 7 years: 75% of growth has been in urban fringe (greenfield), but now 80% of growth is urban infill; reflecting a change in consumer preference
 - e. Rapid technology change means investing in infrastructure needs to be long term
 - f. Changing climate – shift from fossil fuels and people choosing not to own vehicles
2. Land use planning
- a. Undertook major reform commencing 2016 to streamline, simplify and promote good planning
3. Role of parliament
- a. Bipartisan commitment to infrastructure enables long term decision making
 - b. Parliament needs to support innovation; e.g. through relaxing laws to allow for experimentation to take place
4. Much more to do
- a. By learning from the issues in other jurisdictions as they go through high population growth – hoping to achieve a city with higher population growth, but keep it liveable
 - b. Commitment to density and design quality and changing climate
 - c. Believe we have tools to grow and keep city liveable

Questions

Asked by: Mr Mark Parton, MLA, Legislative Assembly ACT

Can you explain the reasons behind the shift in recent times from 75% growth in greenfield that is now 80% urban infill – you indicated this was primarily based on market preference?

Response:

There are many factors for this including:

- Jobs growth – moved from industrial manufacturing to high tech white collar based in city
- Greenfields houses are cheaper, but costs of living are higher
- Density – 40% comes from minor infill (subdividing) trend away from quarter acre blocks
- Houses that were built 50-60 yrs ago – cheap houses that have reached end of useful life
- Site value and capital value (cheaper to develop) and consumer preferences
- Living more in single person households and more space inside houses rather than outside
- Changes in short period of time have led to planning response

Asked by: Hon Curtis Pitt, MLA Parliament of Queensland

1. *how is SA using federal funding initiatives in this area?*
2. *How do you facilitate housing construction growth through 1st time home owners' grants, land tax, etc?*

Response:

- Infrastructure SA has recently classified Adelaide as small city (equivalent to Hobart, Townsville), SA now looking at how it can use this status as a low growth city and turn this around
- Current Federal government wants to be more interventionist in migration policy through skilled migration – and dictate where people can and can't go (SA will benefit from this)
- Stamp duty concession on apartments in Adelaide removed
- Credit liquidity – rise in housing value will stimulate housing construction
- SA Home Start program provides for liquidity when Banks tightened criteria
 - 1 in 5 loans are 1st home buyer loans
 - Home Start targeted lower risk groups to lend to that banks don't recognise, such as the Graduate Loan Program that helps to stimulate new house construction and keep students here
 - SA has the lowest reduction in new home approvals than the rest of the country

Asked by: Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Northern Territory Legislative Assembly

How do you address the problem of loss of prime farming land for housing?

Response:

- Does not consider loss of farming land as a risk to food security – SA exports most food and improvements in agricultural practices 1960-2010 doubled the amount of food produced on land
- SA has an urban growth boundary – outside of which you can't have urban growth and Environmental Food Production areas defined in legislation provides SA Parliament with powers to determine how far the city sprawls

Asked by: Mr Jim Madden, MP Parliament of Queensland

What is the vision for SA to use hydrogen as an energy source?

Response:

- Demand for hydrogen is coming from Japan/South Korea
- Massive export opportunity for SA – given focus here is on renewable energy
- Influence on stabilising our electricity grid
- Hydrogen as part of renewable energy program and integrated energy projects

Asked by: Mr Deepak Raj Gupta, Member of the Legislative Assembly, ACT

What are the challenges to change old transport systems to clean energy?

Response:

- Decision to not necessarily to be first, but be fast
- Cautious approach in SA

- Economics will drive change to renewable energy; e.g. electric vehicles – full life cycle costs are cheaper – by 2020-2025 reaching parity with combustion engine
- Government to facilitate this change rather than drive it
- 70% of the electricity grid is now renewables

Asked by: Ms Rubina Irfan, Member National Assembly, Pakistan

How do you deliver services sustaining the cultural norms and opportunities for jobs for the younger generation and development of infrastructure?

Response:

- Advancements in agriculture means need less people and less jobs
 - Far north, Murray Mallee regions have seen populations decline
 - 92% of area of SA contains less than 10% of the population, therefore infrastructure depends on political will
 - Government is spending on roads, but economic base (reliant on broadacre farming) has diminished
- Major mining projects have thriving communities; e.g. Roxby Downs and Moomba
- Tourism: rural farming land is now open to on-farm development – farmers will be able to undertake tourism development to supplement incomes
- Renewable energy – initially lots of jobs
- Space – satellite launching infrastructure
- Nuclear waste storage facility

Asked by: Mr Rowan Ramsay, Member House of Representatives, Parliament of Aust

As policy makers how do we address the issue of the increase in electric vehicles and the impact of funding for road infrastructure that currently comes through fuel tax?

Response:

- Government is now spending more on infrastructure than taxes collected
- Tax growth is stagnant because vehicles are more fuel efficient
- Low uptake of electric cars in SA – need policy change now to factor in way to get electrics rolled out
- Airports, ports, rail, public transport – user charge model – a market-based model that prices those costs effectively
- Electric vehicles present an opportunity to move towards market-based user-based charging system using vehicles' GPS technology – tax kilometres instead of fuel consumption

<p>1.15 pm</p>	<p>Session 2: The Challenge of Political Representation to protect cultural identity and traditions</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Ms Sandra Nelson MP, Northern Territory</p> <p>Hon Francisca Semoso MP, Deputy Speaker (Bougainville)</p> <p>Ms Niki Rattle MP, Speaker (Parliament of the Cook Islands)</p>
	<p>1. Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Northern Territory</p> <p>Presentation summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urbanisation can create a sense of uniformity in regional towns, they lose their unique qualities. • Urbanisation requires balancing the need to grow population, stabilise and grow economy, and preserve and protect culture, heritage and environment. • As persons move into towns from remote communities, housing investment grows but the budget does not – health, education, policing amongst others must also be provided. • Recognition of contribution to culture requires a consideration of outcomes and effectiveness, not just the new infrastructure acquired. Economic benefit and community benefit must be equal, one suffers without the other. • Economic decisions must consider the need to make space for culture and community. Developments must include a certain amount of useable community space. It must remain inviting and maintained. • Note culture extends beyond race, it includes a definition of culture that contemplates any community of like-minded people engaging in similar interests, such as religion, sports or arts. • The value of community centres is recognized and included in the Darwin development of Lyons. They facilitate the meeting of groups. • Government funded community groups face onerous reporting requirements, seeking ‘value-for-money’ justification, becoming a turn off for potential participants. A lot of what is gained from such groups can’t be measured. <p>2. Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP, Autonomous Region of Bougainville</p> <p>Presentation summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bougainville has significant cultural diversity within and between different language groups, and land is considered to have a special place in Bougainville’s society. • Political representation can provide an opportunity to raise awareness and advocate on political, social and economic issues to protect indigenous culture and traditions in Bougainville. • Concerns about the challenges created by uncontrolled economic activity in Bougainville, as well as the uncontrolled expansion of towns. • Migration of people into different areas, such as the movement from rural areas to urban areas, and the importance of services reaching people in these areas. • Most of the rural to urban migration from South and Central Bougainville to North Bougainville is largely for employment reasons. • Bougainville is preparing for a referendum in three days’ time.

3. Hon Tutonga Puapii Picknic (Niki) Rattle, MP, Speaker, Parliament of the Cook Islands

Presentation summary:

- Importance of engaging with indigenous communities.
- Culture is recognised in land, language, dance, dress and food.
- Language dialects spoken by different islands make it difficult to reach agreement to change the name of the Cook Islands.
- 24 Members of Parliament of Cook Islands serve the purpose of recognising diversity of cultures across the islands.
- Rights must, and do, exist for indigenous peoples, but their reality and experience must also be recognised and considered. Parliaments must ensure implementation of human rights.
- Different cultures must be accepted, and not merely tolerated.

Questions

Asked by: Hon Vincent Tarzia MP, Speaker, Parliament of South Australia

The question of displaying the Aboriginal flag in the chamber of the House of Assembly has been raised. Does the Bougainville Parliament do anything of such nature?

Response: Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP

Various cultural items are displayed in the chamber including locally made furniture made from Bougainville wood, shell money, and the Bougainville flag featuring the traditional UPE.

Asked by: Mr Patrick Gorman MP, Member for Perth, Commonwealth Parliament

Noted the issue of questionable quality development, including undeveloped small parks and lack of native trees. How can development and the creation of space be improved?

Responses:

Ms Sandra Nelson MLA

Community involvement is key, consultation with local people is critical to quality development, such as seeking community input for the design of land.

Hon Niki Rattle MP

Provided an overview of land ownership in the Cook Islands and raised the need to engage with communities as part of a development process, particularly in respect of largescale infrastructure projects.

Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP

- Supported the previous answers and noted that there had been incidences of violence as a result of poorly regulated mining development in Bougainville.
- People must contribute, and governments must listen.

Asked by: Hon Marlon A Penn MP, British Virgin Islands

Commented on the importance of helping people who may have felt disenfranchised, to become more participatory citizens in society, and asked Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP about the strategy in Bougainville.

	<p>Response: Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that young people who have felt left out are included in society. • Commented on the effectiveness of inclusive programs in Bougainville that aim to encourage greater participation in society. • These included programs for young people who did not receive formal schooling during the 1990's, as well as and programs for ex-combatants.
<p>3.30</p>	<p>Session 3: Rural Constituencies – Are they being heard?</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Mr. Gerry Wood MLA (Northern Territory)</p> <p>Hon Fatoga Talama MP (Tuvalu)</p> <p>Ms. Bernice Watson First Clerk Assistant, Committees (Queensland)</p>
	<p>1. Mr. Gerry Wood MLA, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of the Northern Territory</p> <p>Presentation summary:</p> <p><i>Keep Rural Rural</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Territory has a population of around 250,000 and covers one fifth of Australia's landmass. The Darwin region comprises a combination of urban areas in the cities of Darwin and Palmerston and rural areas. • The rural area of the Darwin region comprises 1ha, 2ha and 8ha blocks with a number of small service centres and has been governed by a local government shire since 1986. • Residents in the rural area enjoy a range of lifestyle benefits including: space for families, pets and gardens; privacy; flexibility in building design; and safety, with low rates of crime. • As the cities of Darwin and Palmerston grow, rural residents face pressure from governments and developers seeking to subdivide and urbanise parts of the rural area. Increased urbanisation presents risks to the lifestyle for residents in the rural area. • Good planning is about vision, options and willingness to stick to a plan. • Governments and developers must balance urban development and expansion with rural development, to allow space for residents to maintain a rural lifestyle. <p>2. Hon Fatoga Talama MP, Member, Parliament of Tuvalu</p> <p>Presentation summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuvalu comprises 9 islands (3 reef islands and 6 atoll islands) covering 26 square kilometres. Tuvalu has a population of 10 645, two-thirds of which live in the capital city Fongafale, Funafuti. • Urban drift from the outer islands to Fongafale is driven by access to work, medical services and education. The increasing number of people moving from the outer islands to Fongafale puts significant pressure on infrastructure and services. • Tuvalu's National Development Strategies specify priority for outer island governance and development. However, there are limited policies and strategies in place focusing on the outer islands and responsibilities for local governments have not been matched with sufficient resources. • Government engagement with the outer islands should be strengthened through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ increased frequency of nation-wide consultation on national development strategies, involving representatives from each of the outer islands;

- decentralising some core government functions and departments to the outer islands, including consider transferring the seat of government;
- making decentralisation and development of the outer islands a requirement for all development programs and require all government departments to measure and report to Parliament on their engagement with the outer islands.
- Parliament has an important role to play in supporting outer island development through:
 - regulating and monitoring urbanisation and decentralisation;
 - enforcing the implementation of urbanisation regulations and achievement of outer island development goals; and
 - placing conditions on the national budget to ensure outer island development targets are met.

3. Ms. Bernice Watson, First Clerk Assistant (Committees), Parliament of Queensland

Presentation summary:

Parliamentary committees as channels for rural and regional voices to Parliament

- Parliamentary committees play an important role as channels for the voices of residents in rural and regional Queensland to be heard in Parliament. Queensland is the most decentralised State in Australia with approximately 2.5 million people living in urban areas (represented by 50 MPs) and 2.5 million people living in rural and regional areas (represented by 43 MPs).
- Reforms to the committee system in 2011 have resulted in the Queensland Parliament establishing seven portfolio-based committees. Since the reforms, committee engagement with the community has significantly increased.
- To better engage with rural and regional communities, the Queensland Parliament has held five sittings of parliament in rural areas. The most recent sitting was held in Townsville in September 2019.
- Parliamentary committees are increasingly engaging with rural and regional communities. In 2018-19, 21 per cent of public hearings were held outside of the capital city, Brisbane, with many inquiries focusing on rural and regional issues.
- Committees engage with rural and regional communities through holding formal public hearings and conducting site visits in rural areas, engaging with Indigenous communities and visiting remote communities.
- The key challenges for committees in engaging with rural and regional communities include:
 - inquiry timeframes;
 - distance and associated travel costs;
 - communication, including a lack of understanding of committee processes and understanding of community relationships;
 - access due to weather, particularly during the wet season; and
 - unreliable internet access in rural and regional areas.
- To address these challenges, the Queensland Parliament has introduced a number of measures, including:
 - increased use of videoconferencing facilities;
 - broadcasting of committee proceedings via the internet;
 - employing an Indigenous liaison officer;
 - adopting a flexible approach to hearings to best suit witnesses;
 - developing staff relationships with culturally and linguistically diverse communities;
 - supporting regional education activities; and

- increased use of media, social media and community radio.

Questions

Asked by: Hon Vincent Tarzia MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly, Parliament of South Australia

How is parliamentary privilege observed and maintained during Committee hearings?

Response:

Ms. Bernice Watson, First Clerk Assistant (Committees), Parliament of Queensland

- The Standing Orders provide that committee hearings have parliamentary privilege.
- Hansard staff travel on the road with committees to record evidence from witnesses.
- When a committee takes its inquiry to a regional area, it is important to distinguish between informal engagement/conversation opportunities between the committee and community members, and formal committee proceedings for which privilege applies.

Asked by: Hon Tutonga Puapii Picknic (Niki) Rattle MP, Speaker of the Parliament of the Cook Islands

What are the practices around how a committee chair communicates with the media about committee business? In particular, how can committees ensure that a chair does not overstate the ability of the committee to change a government decision?

Response:

Ms. Bernice Watson, First Clerk Assistant (Committees), Parliament of Queensland

- Committees will usually resolve that the chair is the spokesperson to the media regarding public comment on behalf of the committee. In most cases, chairs are cautious about not disclosing private decisions of the committee, or of overstating the ability of the committee to influence government decisions.
- Standing Orders can provide some boundaries for the issue of making public comment on behalf of committees. For example, the Queensland Parliament's Standing Orders prohibit the disclosure of private committee deliberations.

Asked by: Mr Patrick Gorman MP, Member for Perth, Parliament of Australia

How did the regional sittings of the Queensland Parliament work in practice and was it a rewarding experience for Members, staff and regional communities? How can we measure the benefits of engagement with regional communities?

Response:

Hon Curtis Pitt MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of Queensland

- The fifth regional sitting of the Queensland Parliament in Townsville in September 2019 was a big success and very rewarding for Members, staff and the local community.
- One of the best measures for success was the strong level of engagement with local school students. The regional sitting provided students with opportunities to be involved in, and learn about, parliamentary processes, and share their impressions of proceedings with Members.
- Cost is one the key barriers to Parliament engaging with regional communities, particularly committees. In some cases, a committee may offer to fly individual witnesses to participate in a committee hearing and provide evidence. This may be a suitable option for community engagement when holding committee hearings in certain areas but it is not always possible or practical.

Wednesday 20th November 2019

9.00am

Session 4:

Service Delivery – Funding and Maintaining

Presenters:

Hon Tutonga Puapii Picknic (Niki) Rattle MP Speaker (Cook Islands)

Hon Manuela Kita MP (Cook Islands)

The Political Pressure from Urban Infill

Presenter:

Hon Vincent Tarzia, MP Speaker (South Australia)

1. **Hon Tutonga Puapii Picknic (Niki) Rattle** MP Speaker (Cook Islands)

Presentation summary:

- Highlighted parliaments' role in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goal 16, and the Declaration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The Commonwealth Charter closely reflects Agenda 2030. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and United Nations Development Program updated Benchmarks for Democratic Legislatures in the context of SDGs. The potential for the exchange of knowledge and development of partnerships to build sustainable development capacity was recognised.
- Parliamentarians can impact National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) and SDG implementation through effective oversight of how services are provided, what is effective and where there are deficiencies. Transportation by way of shipping in the Cook Islands is one example of an important service that requires oversight. Legislation must be enacted to impose effective obligations, noting both long and short terms goals. The impact upon all constituents must be acknowledged, not merely Members own constituencies. Budgets must be scrutinised, recognising they must provide equally for different constituencies, regardless of size.
- Parliamentarians need to be regularly and formally consulted and informed about the islands and national development planning, that includes the incorporation of NSDP based on the SDGs.
- The challenges to service delivery include a lack of resources, or political will. The ongoing competing models of centralisation and decentralisation, with decentralisation now the model in the Cook Islands, supported by legislation; a lack of engagement by society; a lack of gender balance; a lack of change to structures and processes to reflect changing needs of people all present challenges.
- Parliamentarians can overcome service delivery challenges through alignment of policy and program requirements with the NSDP and SDGs, ensuring reporting on implementation compliance; and that all levels of government and

communities are consulted on decisions; and produce plans that can be monitored.

- The parliamentary committee system's structure, procedures, and resourcing should optimise national development goal monitoring.
- Recommended that Standing Orders could explore procedures and time to provide regular opportunities for Parliament to debate on national development goal achievements of the NSDPs and SDGs

2. **Hon Manuela Kitai MP Parliament of the Cook Islands**

Presentation summary:

- Discussed the rewards of being a new member, representing and supporting constituents, participating in national decision making and debate.
- Provided the example of supporting his constituents through providing Market Huts for families who grow and produce local produce and products to sell locally and to tourists
- Funds are provided by the national government of \$10,000 to each MP for community projects to support the community of each constituency to improve their living conditions through their own efforts.

3. **Hon Vincent Tarzia, MP, Speaker (South Australia)**

Presentation summary: Urban infill in the Electorate of Hartley

- Discussed the role and influence of members of parliament in the planning process and provided an example of a member influencing and amending the rules associated with development in response to constituents' concerns.
- The former state government established the '30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide' to limit urban sprawl, support infrastructure management and investment, preserve peri-urban agricultural land and meet demands for different smaller housing options
- The plan for this to occur was through increasing urban infill (which would absorb 70% of the population growth) with housing design diversification and by re-zoning some broad acre land for development
- The 15-year infill target set in 2010 was met in 6 years, the increase in high density housing resulted in changes in the profile of many streets in the Hartley electorate. Many new box-style apartments were built next to existing bungalow homes that did not blend with these old homes
- Many residents voiced their concerns and in response Mr. Tarzia put out a survey to the electorate regarding urban infill.
- The responses indicated that the community wanted changes to the development plan including increasing the minimum block size from 150 square metres to 250 square metres and other changes to frontages, car parking, set-backs etc.
- Mr Tarzia obtained support from 10 councils for amendments to the development plan which have now been through the development plan amendment process and approved by the Minister
- This provides an example of the power of an individual member to capture and represent constituents' concerns. The ability to engage directly with the relevant Minister was assisted through the fact that the member was a member of the government.

Questions

Asked by: Hon Angie Warren-Clark MP, New Zealand

What about the removal of greening in public spaces and the associated links to increases in crime, and the prevalence of this issue in lower socio-economic areas? What other actions were taken to increase greening in communities?

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP

Response: Studies show lack of greening can affect social amenity and SA planning reform has a focus on re-greening. Overall amenity can also be improved by other matters such as more shrubbery, reduced speed limits, underground powerlines, better lighting, and wider footpaths to increase local al fresco options and improvements to playgrounds.

Asked by: Mr Mark Parton MLA, Australian Capital Territory

There is a concern regarding the ad hoc nature of development and infill mentioned in your presentation and I note there are no local councils in ACT. Can you explain what regulations were previously in place guiding lot ratios and maximum dwelling sizes?

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP

Response: There were issues with the previous development plans which provided options to develop in ways which enabled development and resulting density in excess of what was considered to be acceptable.

Asked by: Mr Marty Hunt MP, Queensland

In respect of the survey you conducted of community concerns regarding potential amendment to planning laws did this refer to the potential changes to property values? Were the issues of failure of property to sell, and flooding of the market with smaller dwellings affecting the sale price addressed?

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP

Response: There was a previous issue with pricing, and it is noted that amendment to planning rules can effect significant change to property prices. This was considered when reforming planning laws. Developers were given notice in advance of proposed changes. The SA planning reforms have now found an appropriate balance.

Asked by: Hon Francesca Semoso MP, Bougainville

Is land set aside for indigenous people in South Australia?

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP:

Response: There is provision for indigenous housing in South Australia and there has been some effective integration of indigenous people in the urban context.

Supplementary question from Hon Francesca Semoso MP:

What has been implemented in relation to peri-urban development?

Hon Vincent Tarzia MP:

Response: There are 1.3 million people in Adelaide, a further 400,000 in regional South Australia. There is a high cost involved in providing infrastructure for regional centres. There is a need to balance promoting population growth and preserving a strong agricultural economy, along with environmental considerations, such as protecting water supplies and reducing fire risk.

	<p><i>Asked by: Connétable Simon Crowcroft, British Channel Islands</i> <i>Noticing the wide streets in Adelaide and the number of cyclists, what has been done to encourage cycling in Adelaide, and also in the Cook Islands?</i></p> <p>Hon Vincent Tarzia MP: Response: The success of the Tour Down Under has encouraged cycling in SA. There has been progress by both sides of government in South Australia over the previous five to ten years. There has been an increase in cycle paths and dedicated lanes for cyclists, although a heavy reliance on cars continues.</p> <p>Hon Niki Rattle MP, Cook Islands Response: There has been recent approval from land owners to widen roads in the Cook Islands, which are narrow and do not encourage cycling. Cars are very prevalent. There are long term plans to encourage cycling on the islands.</p> <p><i>Asked by: Ms. Sandra Nelson MLA, Northern Territory</i> <i>Responding to questions from Hon Francesca Semoso MP: The Northern Territory faces difficulties with peri-urbanisation in relation to native title. No areas are set aside for indigenous people. It is also noted that the financial burdens arising from managing urban expansion are significant.</i></p> <p><i>Question: How does the Cook Islands generate revenue, and what are the plans for sustainable financial development?</i></p> <p>Hon Niki Rattle MP, Cook Islands Response: The Cook Islands will graduate to Developed Nation status in January 2020 with previous support from New Zealand. As a result, there will be aid programs which will no longer exist. Our biggest industry is tourism and there are also plans to capitalise on the ocean resources as a source of revenue going forward. Tourism will remain a focus.</p> <p><i>Asked by: Mr Patrick Gorman MP, Parliament of Australia</i> <i>Have the SDGs been effective in the Cook Islands? Do they need amendment?</i></p> <p>Hon Niki Rattle MP, Cook Islands Response: The SDGs have been relevant in the context of the Cook Islands. The Cook Islands must remain aware of the mistakes made in other jurisdictions. There is a need for proper consideration to be given to development and the potential adverse outcomes that may result. This is required beyond the application of the SDGs.</p>
<p>10.45 am</p>	<p>Urban developments in Adelaide (Briefing and site visit)</p> <p>Mr Mark Devine, Acting Chief Executive, Renewal SA</p> <p>Mr Richard Stranger Director Planning and Design, Renewal SA</p>
	<p>Presentation summary:</p> <p>Renewal SA</p>

- Renewal Urban Authority is a statutory authority established to manage key urban development in Adelaide
- Role is to initiate, undertake and support development in the public interest
- Residential to commercial and job creation outcomes
- Provides an opportunity for growth investment
- Identifies future growth potential within suburbs with individual councils

Case study: Bowden (site visit)

- Strategic site in context of Adelaide
- Renewal SA stepped in to clean up contaminated industrial sites
- The project fit in with the objectives of state strategic plans
- Role of renewal SA was to create land parcels for sale to the private sector, parklands upgrade, as well as the train station
- Aim was to construct a liveable and walkable community
- 6-star green star community rating (currently the highest)

Case study: Tonsley (site visit)

- Mixed use – education, high tech industrial, residential
- More people working on the site now in high tech than were working for Mitsubishi/Chrysler when it was a car manufacturing site
- 20-year project started in 2012
- Move from traditional manufacturing to high tech manufacturing; health, cleantech and renewable energy, automation and mining and energy
- Tonsley is considered a world leader in sustainability

Case study: Lot 14

- Replacing traditional health workers with workers in emerging and fast evolving industries: defence, space, Artificial Intelligence, cyber-security, digital effects, communications
- Start-up hub
- Number of heritage buildings onsite that will be retained
- Government investment creating public spaces, innovation centre, international culinary centre, indigenous cultural facility

Questions

Asked by: Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Parliament of the Northern Territory

What is the difference between affordable and social housing?

Response: Mr Stranger

- Social housing (or public housing) is provided by the state or not for profit and affordable housing is housing for private purchase or rental where the price point is lower than median of that project
- SA Housing is the authority for public housing
- The Government provides a significant amount of public housing

Asked by: Mr Mark Parton MLA, Australian Capital Territory

- *Who owned land at the point at which Bowden was rezoned?*
- *How do you determine which parcels of land have enough public interest to determine investment?*

Response: Mr Stranger

- The area of Bowden was a manufacturing site privately owned by Clipsal who relocated to a new manufacturing facility
- Zoned commercial/industrial at the time
- Because of state strategic plans – Bowden really fitted into those plans – so government provided leadership to show what the land could be used for
- Getting banks to fund something that is a zoning risk is difficult due to high up-front costs
- Probably would have been delivered as higher commercial site
- Government will ultimately make money back– developers will come in and purchase land parcels – and will have certainty of infrastructure, etc.
- Commercial outcome once you get beyond the initial cost



Delegates visiting Tonsley – a mixed use innovation district

9.00am

Session 6: Engaging an Indigenous population

Presenters:

Ms Angie Warren-Clark MP Parliament of New Zealand

Mr Simon Crowcroft Connétable (British Channel Islands)

Hon Kye Rymer MP (British Virgin Islands)

1. Hon Angie Warren-Clark, Member of the House of Representatives, Parliament of New Zealand

Presentation summary:

- The first inhabitants of New Zealand, the Māori people, have been in New Zealand for over 900 years.
- It is important to continue to recognise the history of confiscation and loss of land, and its continuing effects today for Māori people.
- Issues of land redress and the return of land continue, and to date, approximately less than one per cent of land has been returned to Māori.
- The New Zealand Parliament has an important role in cultural redress through the Treaty of Waitangi settlement process. Settlements are referred to the Māori Affairs Select Committee which focuses on aspects of Māori business and provides a unique opportunity to hear peoples' stories and settle grievances.;
- The seven Māori seats (out of a total of 120 seats) are an important feature of New Zealand Parliament, and the set of criteria for a Māori candidate is considered unique.
- In the 52nd Parliament, there is approximately 22 per cent Māori representation, which is the highest percentage to date.
- Ensuring that culture continues in the House is important, and one aspect through which the New Zealand Parliament does this is by celebrating the two official languages of sign language and Māori language. The Parliament also provides access to bi-lingual sign language interpreters.
- Recognising language and different cultures is very important and recently Tonga Language week was celebrated at Parliament.
- Another way that Parliament helps to ensure that culture and language is strengthened is through the successful outreach program, designed to ensure that Parliament goes to the people and to create engagement opportunities with local schools and business communities.

2. Connétable Simon Crowcroft, Connétable of St Helier, States Assembly, States of Jersey

Presentation summary:

- Jersey in the British Channel Islands has a population of approximately 105,000 people and is growing rapidly at a rate of around 1000 people per year. One third of the population lives in the capital city, St Helier.

- The States of Jersey Parliament has an important role to play in balancing the tensions and benefits of migration in a fast-growing multicultural urban society, maintaining cultural harmony and protecting indigenous cultural traditions.
- Jersey has a long history of supporting migrant workers from France and the UK, and more recently from Madeira (Portugal), Poland, Italy, Romania and Africa. Migrants work in a number of industries including agriculture and financial services.
- To support local and migrant communities, St Helier has initiated a number of ‘twinning programs’, including with Bad Wurzach in Germany and Madeira in Portugal. Jersey also provides aid to Rwanda through supporting a cattle breeding program.
- Twinning programs facilitate exchange of culture (including musical and theatre groups), migrants, tourists and official political visits. Twinning programs help to maintain links between migrant communities and their homelands and support the enrichment of the Jersey community.
- Other measures to support community integration include cultural festivals, recognition of migrant national days, language courses and appointment of migrants as honorary police.
- The recent election of the first Member of Portuguese descent to the States of Jersey Parliament highlights the importance and value of twinning programs.
- Future twinning programs could be considered with Trenton (New Jersey, USA), Poland, Romania and Rwanda.

3. **Hon Kye Rymer MP, British Virgin Islands**

Presentation summary:

- The British Virgin Islands has about 32 islands of which the main island is Tortola and is where most government services and commercial activities are based.
- More than half of the residents of the British Virgin Islands are expatriates, and they come from over 120 different nationalities, working in a range of industries on the Islands.
- Tortola particularly experiences a large intake of migrant workers from different cultures around the world.
- There are varied occasions whereby the British Virgin Islands seeks to encourage and maintain the unique culture and heritage of the Islands.
- One event is the Annual Emancipation Festival which is linked to the remembrance of the 1934 abolition of slavery.
- To further recognise the heritage of the British Virgin Islands, Territory Day is observed in July, and this event recognises the sacrifices and struggles of the founding generations of British Virgin Islanders, and their pursuit of suffrage and internal self-governance.
- The British Virgin Islands is seeking to further acknowledge, document and celebrate its history, particularly the Great March of 24 November 1949.
- While the British Virgin Islands has experienced a loss of skills and human capital when people migrate to other more developed countries, often in pursuit of new opportunities, it continues to explore how to better encourage people to stay in their own country of birth and strengthen the Island’s own culture and values.
- Parliament has an important role to play in curbing the negative impacts of urbanisation and promoting good quality of life. Parliament is more limited in its ability to control migration push and pull factors.

	<p>Questions</p> <p><i>Asked by: Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly</i></p> <p><i>What is the median age in the British Virgin Islands and Jersey and how does this impact on your future planning?</i></p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Hon Kye Rymer MP, British Virgin Islands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The median age in the British Virgin Islands is 40 years old. <p>Connétable Simon Crowcroft, States of Jersey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The median age in Jersey would likely be older. Jersey has an ageing population as many people move back to Jersey later in life. This presents challenges in providing aged-care facilities and attracting aged care workers. <p><i>Asked by: Mr Deepak Raj Gupta MLA, Member of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly</i></p> <p><i>Do you have an immigration policy to control population growth?</i></p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Hon Kye Rymer MP, British Virgin Islands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The British Virgin Islands has an immigration policy that controls who may become a resident. <p>Connétable Simon Crowcroft, States of Jersey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jersey’s immigration policy is determined by the UK. Population growth is controlled through requiring residents to live in Jersey for 10 years before they may purchase a house. This does not apply to wealthier migrants who bring economic benefits to Jersey. <p><i>Asked by: Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly</i></p> <p><i>What is your policy on accepting refugees and asylum seekers?</i></p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Connétable Simon Crowcroft, States of Jersey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jersey is limited by the UK’s immigration policy.
<p>11.00 am</p>	<p>Session 7: Urban development and democracy – balancing the roles of the Executive and the Legislature</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Hon Mark Parnell MLC, South Australia</p> <p>Professor Rob Fowler, University of South Australia</p>
	<p>1. Professor Rob Fowler, University of South Australia</p> <p>Presentation summary:</p>

- Environmental aspects and practical realities of, and global perspective on, urbanisation
- Urbanisation has been around for a long time – people living together around rural production, and then around industrial production
- Currently in the ultimate phase of history of urbanisation with the majority of world’s population lives in cities
- Challenges: consumption of energy in cities; storage of greenhouse gas emissions; impacts of climate change – 143 million people around the world will become climate migrants and refugees
- Cities are both generators of gas emissions, but will become locations of climate migrant and refugee settlements
- Sustainable Development Goals – adopted in 2015 by UN General Assembly – economic and environment agenda as a means to produce social equity
- Urban expansion is growing faster than population growth
- Global forums on urbanisation – Brazil: Integrated solutions to urban development and social inequality; Malaysia: SDGs; Marseilles: IUCN congress June 2020

2. **Hon Mark Parnell, MLC, Parliament of South Australia**

Presentation summary:

- Parliament’s role in providing access to information; facilitating participation; providing access to justice
- Access to information: how clear are the rules?
 - Who is really making the decisions and what level of influence is being exerted over decisions?
 - Should citizens have a right to know details of individual development applications?
- Participation: do citizens have the right to participate? If so, in what types of decisions?
 - Policy and individual development applications- which of these two areas should citizens have right to have a say?
 - SA encourages public to have say in writing policies (Community Engagement Charter), but not to have a say on individual development applications
 - How you consult makes a difference
- Access to justice: if a bad decision is made, under what circumstances should citizens get decision reviewed
 - Courts can decide appeals of a technical nature, but not merit
 - Citizens have not been provided with powers to challenge decisions on policy and development applications

Questions

Asked by: Hon Niki Rattle, Speaker, Cook Islands

How do you address the limitations of democracy by vote where bad decisions can be irreversible and by the time you get to vote someone out the damage is done?

Response: Hon Mark Parnell

Bad decisions have and do occur, and have been irreversible

Asked by: Mr Mark Parton MLA, Australian Capital Territory

What level of community engagement is appropriate? I agree with high level of community engage, but how much?

Response: Hon Mark Parnell

- Setting reasonable boundaries – time within which challenge can be brought and limits around public interest tests
- Want to avoid vexatious challenges, but really developers should take into consideration what the community wants prior to lodging an application

Asked by: Hon Angie Warren-Clark, MP

What about objections to development on cultural grounds?

Response: Hon Mark Parnell MLC

- There are few cases in SA where Traditional Owners have the ability to veto development projects – only if freehold - some limited control

Response: Professor Rob Fowler

- How to supplement representative democracy with participative democracy – more responsibility vested in communities to direct their future
- Transition Towns Movement in UK is an example of trend to self-sufficiency to vital resources – community is more participatory in decisions
- Participatory democracy can be a new form of government that provides the opportunity for citizens to be more directly involved.

Asked by: Hon Niki Rattle, Cook Islands

- The Cook Island's constitution recognises specifically indigenous leaders – government/ parliament can refer that to group of traditional leaders who can stop things, In terms of the SDGs and parliamentarians role the Cook Islands have added into their National Sustainable Development Plan extra goals around culture, heritage, etc.

Response: Professor Rob Fowler

- Constitutional aspect in 196 nations in world – 2/3-3/4 have provisions in constitutional recognition of indigenous peoples and human rights with respect to environment
- This then becomes issue of access to justice – are they aspirations or legal matters
- Australia fails to recognise indigenous voices in its Constitution

