

Government of South Australia

Department of Treasury and Finance

File: T&F21/0211 A1845719

4 June 2021

Mr Peter Malinauskas MP Leader of the Opposition Parliament House North Terrace ADELAIDE SA 5000

Sent via email: pamela.perre@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Malinauskas

Freedom of Information - Unpaid Emergency Service Levy

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act), received by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) on 3 March 2021.

Your application specifically requested:

'All documents (including but not limited to physical, electronic, or written briefs, internal discussion papers, minutes, emails, diary entries and any other correspondence) referencing regarding the amount of unpaid Emergency Service Levy bills [date range 25/3/2018 to 2/3/2021].'

After consultation with you, the scope of your application was amended to:

'Total number of final notices issued and total outstanding amount as at financial year end [date range 25/3/2018 to 2/3/2021].'

Under the Act, an agency has 30 days to respond to a freedom of information request. As DTF did not respond to your request within the time frame required, the department is deemed to have refused you access to all documents relevant to your application. However, I have determined to process the request as if the statutory time frame had been met.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of my determination.

One document was identified as answering the terms of your application and I have determined to release the document to you in full, a copy of which is enclosed.

Documents released in full

Document 1

RevenueSA advises that:

Total ESL outstanding by financial year includes debt outstanding from previous financial years,

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- 'Total Referrals' to RevenueSA's Debt Management Services Branch includes new referrals of debt, linked debt (debt added to clients' debt from previous years), and debt outstanding from previous financial years, and
- Final Notices are issued pursuant to Revenue Ruling ESL002, wherein it is advised that a Final Notice is issued where a default has occurred, that is, a failure to pay by the due date stipulated on the Notice of Emergency Services Levy Assessment or the Instalment Notice.

Please note, in compliance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045 - *Disclosure Logs for Non-Personal Information Released through Freedom of Information* (PC045), DTF is now required to publish a log of all non-personal information released under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*.

In accordance with this Circular, any non-personal information determined for release as part of this application, may be published on the DTF website. A copy of PC045 can be found at the following address: <u>http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars</u> Please visit the website for further information.

Appeal Rights

If you are aggrieved with this determination, you have a right to apply for internal review under subsection 29(1) of the FOI Act. Pursuant to subsection 29(2), your application must:

- be in writing
- be addressed to the principal officer, and
- be lodged at an office of DTF, or emailed to <u>freedomofinformation2@sa.gov.au</u> within 30 days after the day on which you receive this letter or within such further time as the principal officer may allow.

If you require any further information please phone Russell Withers on (08) 8429 3631.

Yours sincerely

Maria Ross ACCREDITED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

Financial Year	Total ESL Outstanding at 30 June	Total Referrals at 30 June
2017/2018	\$13,227,044.00	43,136
2018/2019	\$11,200,957.04	36,211
2019/2020	\$9,997,131.72	35,688
2020/2021 (to 31/3/2021)	\$11,584,166.33	38,614

Financial Year	Number of Final Notices Issued
2017/2018	113,117
2018/2019	100,332
2019/2020	93,791
2020/2021 (to 31/3/2021)	103,753