



**Government  
of South Australia**

TRS20D0207

Hon Stephen Mullighan MP  
Member for Lee  
Unit 1, 62 Semaphore Road  
SEMAPHORE SA 5019

**Treasurer**  
Level 8  
State Administration Centre  
200 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 2264  
Adelaide SA 5001  
DX 56203 Victoria Square  
Tel 08 8226 1866  
treasurer.dtf@sa.gov.au

[lee@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:lee@parliament.sa.gov.au)

*Stephen*  
Dear Mr Mullighan

**APPLICATION UNDER THE *FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991***

I refer to your applications made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act), dated 5 February 2020.

Your application seeks access to:

*"All minutes, briefings and correspondence titled 'Surplus Land Review' as described on the Objective document management system, between 17 July 2019 and 5 February 2020."*

The legislative prescribed timeframe to determine this application has expired and is now deemed to have refused you access to all documents relevant to your application. I refer to my letter dated 22 February 2020 where I sought additional time to make my determination.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of my determination. An extensive search was conducted within this office. A total of 1 document was identified as answering the terms of your application.

I grant you access in part to 1 document; a copy of which is enclosed.

**Documents released in part**

Document 1 is a briefing prepared by the Department of Treasury and Finance for my information, in relation to the outcome of the review into the identification of surplus land.

The information contained in the table has been redacted as it identifies property location, property valuations and other property details which, if released, could negatively impact the sales proceeds from any future sales process. I therefore determine this exempt pursuant to clause 7(1)(c) and clause 15(a)(b).

This briefing contains information which, if released, would disclose details concerning a deliberation or decision of Cabinet. I therefore determine this exempt pursuant to clause 1(1)(e) to the FOI Act.

## **Exemptions**

### **Clause 1 – Cabinet Documents**

- (1) *A document is an exempt document—*
- (a) *if it is a document that has been specifically prepared for submission to Cabinet (whether or not it has been so submitted); or*
  - (b) *if it is a preliminary draft of a document referred to in paragraph (a); or*
  - (c) *if it is a document that is a copy of or part of, or contains an extract from, a document referred to in paragraph (a) or (b).*
  - (e) *if it contains matter the disclosure of which would disclose information concerning any deliberation or decision of Cabinet; or*
  - (f) *if it is a briefing paper specifically prepared for the use of a Minister in relation to a matter submitted, or proposed to be submitted to Cabinet.*

### **Clause 7 – Documents affecting business affairs concerning**

- (1) *A document is an exempt document—*
- (b) *if it contains matter—*
    - (i) *consisting of information (other than trade secrets) that has a commercial value to any agency or any other person; and*
    - (ii) *the disclosure of which—*
      - (A) *could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on those affairs or to prejudice the future supply of such information to the Government or to an agency; and*
      - (B) *would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest; or*
  - (c) *if it contains matter—*
    - (i) *consisting of information (other than trade secrets or information referred to in paragraph (b)) concerning the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of any agency or any other person; and*
    - (ii) *the disclosure of which—*
      - (A) *could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on those affairs or to prejudice the future supply of such information to the Government or to an agency; and*
      - (B) *would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.*

### **Clause 15 – Financial and property interests**

*A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which—*

- (a) *could reasonably be expected to have a substantial adverse effect on the financial or property interests of the State or an agency.*
- (b) *would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.*

Please note, in compliance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045 - *Disclosure Logs for Non-Personal Information Released through Freedom of Information* (PC045), the Department of Treasury and Finance 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: <https://dpc.sa.gov.au/resources-and-publications/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. Please visit the website for further information.

As I am determining this application as Principal Officer, Section 29(6) of the Act does not provide for an internal review. If you are dissatisfied with my determination you are entitled to exercise your rights of external review with the Ombudsman.

Alternatively, you can apply to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. If you wish to seek a review, Section 39(3) of the Act states you must do so within 30 calendar days of receiving the determination.

If you require any further information, please contact Vicky Cathro on 8226 9769.

Yours sincerely

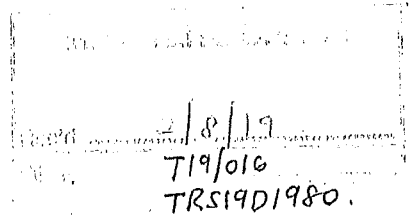


**Hon Rob Lucas MLC**  
*Principal Officer*

14 March 2020

**RELEASE IN PART**

MINUTE



MINUTES forming ENCLOSURE

File T&F17/0789

Doc No A1162048

To The Treasurer

**SURPLUS LAND REVIEW**

Timing: ROUTINE — For information.

**Recommendations/Issues:** It is recommended that you:

- Note the outcome of the recent review into the identification of surplus land;
- Note that further work will be required for agencies to confirm the land that has been identified as potentially surplus to requirements and how best to make this available to the private sector;
- Approve the Department of Treasury and Finance working with agencies that have identified possible surplus land and Renewal SA to develop a database of surplus land as well as a possible timeframe for taking the land to market that could be considered as part of the 2019-20 MYBR; and
- Note that it is proposed to provide a paper to BCC [REDACTED]

Approved/Not-Approved-

Hon Rob Lucas MLC  
Treasurer

2/8/19

**Key Points:**

- Attached for your reference are the results of the recent review undertaken into surplus land held across SA Government agencies.
- Agencies were asked to review their holdings as recorded by the Valuer-General.
- In summary, 1,852 allotments were initially identified as vacant land that may be surplus to need, with agencies subsequently advising that 357 of these parcels could potentially be surplus to agency requirements subject to further investigation.



- The review removed significant duplication and did not include SA Housing Authority or the Urban Renewal Authority, as their land holdings are considered core business.
- Further work will be required for agencies to confirm the land that is surplus to requirements and how best to make this available to the private sector.
- To ensure the land parcels are considered in a timely manner, it is proposed that the Department of Treasury and Finance work with relevant agencies together with Renewal SA to develop a database of surplus land as well as a possible timeframe for taking the land to market. The timeframe would have regard to broader market factors and ensure that any future sale of surplus land is undertaken in an orderly manner that does not adversely impact the property sector.
- It is proposed that further advice on surplus land would be prepared for consideration as part of the 2019-20 MYBR process.



Tammie Pribanic  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE

2 August 2019

Identification of possible surplus land

Entity Name	Total number of vacant properties	Residential	Industrial / Commercial	Rural & Other	Available for sale/or potential surplus land	Location	Details / Explanation
SA Fire & Emergency Services Commission	11	1	6	4	1	1 Commercial	[REDACTED]
Courts Administration Authority	2	0	2	0	0	0	[REDACTED]
Department for Environment and Water	814	311	72	431	11	8 Residential 3 Rural	[REDACTED]
South Eastern Water Conservation Drain	11	0	0	11	0	0	[REDACTED]
Department for Correctional Services	2	0	0	2	0	0	[REDACTED]
SAPOL	4	2	0	2	2	2 Rural	[REDACTED]
Primary Industries and Regions SA	2	0	1	1	0	0	[REDACTED]
Department for Health and Wellbeing	6	4	2	0	0	0	[REDACTED]
Department for Education	74	56	11	7	4	4 Residential	[REDACTED]
Department for Child Protection	4	4	0	0	0	0	[REDACTED]

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing	7	2	3	2	0	0	
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	2	1	0	1	2	1 Residential 1 Rural	
SA Water	183	15	4	6	9	4 Residential 3 Rural 2 Industrial	
Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure	360	150	86	124	206	91 Residential, 52 Industrial and 63 Rural & Other	
Commissioner for Highways	370	253	66	51	122	84 Residential, 30 Industrial and 8 Rural	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1852</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>357</b>		

Note: the difference between the original reference of 3,300 parcels of land and the 1,852 above are due to removal of significant duplication and other obvious discrepancies in the classification of unused land.

Note: SAHA and URA are not included in the above numbers due to their holdings being part of core business.