

Office of the

23MIT9526

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC lensink.office@parliament.sa.gov.au

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining Level 14, 83 Pirie Street Adelaide SA 5000 GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001

minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Tel 08 7133 1100

Dear Ms Lensink

# APPLICATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act), dated 24 August 2023.

Your application seeks access to:

"All documents, including but not limited to emails, text messages, diary entries, briefings, notes on any other form of communication between the Minister and his office, including Chief of Staff, or any other staff member, and the Member for Newland and/or her office between 1/12/2022 and 28/02/2023."

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of my determination. An extensive search was conducted within this office. A total of 17 documents were identified as answering the terms of your application.

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

I grant you access in part to 16 documents; copies of which are enclosed.

## **Documents Released in Full**

4

### **Documents Released in Part**

Documents 1, 2 3, 5-17 are all released in part as they contain the name of a constituent within the Newland electorate and if released would involve the unreasonable disclosure of personal information. I therefore determine this information exempt pursuant to clause 6 to the FOI Act.

## Exemption

# Clause 6 - Documents affecting personal affairs

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

Please note, in compliance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045 - *Disclosure Logs for Non-Personal Information Released through Freedom of Information* (PC045), details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published in the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at the following address: <a href="https://dpc.sa.gov.au/resources-and-publications/premier-and-cabinet-circulars">https://dpc.sa.gov.au/resources-and-publications/premier-and-cabinet-circulars</a>. Please visit the website for further information.

No fees and charges are payable for this application.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to apply for an internal review, in accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act. To make an internal review application, please either write a letter or complete *Application for Review of Determination* form, to the Principal Officer of this agency, the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, within 30 (calendar) days after you receive this letter.

If you require any further information, please contact Vicky Cathro on (08) 7133 1100.

Yours sincerely

Carly McNeill

Accredited FOI Officer

3 / 10 /2023

# Cathro, Vicky (DIT)

From:

Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent:

Monday, 5 December 2022 2:15 PM

To:

Karastamatis, Anthony (DIT)

Subject:

RE: New driver's licence for Mr

5091 licence no

Banksia Park

#### Thanks Anthony

Sav

Office Manager

OFFICE OF OLIVIA SAVVAS MP | MEMBER FOR NEWLAND



From: Karastamatis, Anthony (DIT) < Anthony. Karastamatis@sa.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 5 December 2022 1:24 PM

To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: New driver's licence for Mr

Banksia Park 5091 licence no



## **OFFICIAL**

#### Good afternoon

has now had the suspension removed from his licence.

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport have advised he is able to resume driving with the following restrictions:

To drive between 9am and 4pm and within a 30km radius of residence in Banksia Park, excluding Express Way.

A new licence card has been ordered on his behalf and will be sent to his postal address.

will also receive a letter advising him of this information.

## Kind regards

Office of the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining



L14, 83 Pirie Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000 • GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5001























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From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 29 November 2022 1:56 PM

To: Karastamatis, Anthony (DIT) < Anthony. Karastamatis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: New driver's licence for Mr

Banksia Park 5091 licence no



Hi Anthony

Could you please assist Mr (1) who is waiting for his new licence after completing his medical practical driver's test. He advises that Service SA told him that it would take 10 days via post to arrive.

He understands that there maybe delays within the Department, but he is worried that his licence has yet to be processed.

Are you able to see whether you can get confirmation that his licence has been posted.

Kind regards

Sav

Office Manager

OFFICE OF OLIVIA SAVVAS MP | MEMBER FOR NEWLAND



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From: DIT: Minister Koutsantonis

Sent: Monday, December 5, 2022 11:13 AM

To: Newland EO <Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au> Subject: RE: Pensioner concession for car registration.

### OFFICIAL

## Good morning

Thank you for your email on behalf of Mr regarding the application for the age pension concession for car registration.

As requested, on 10 November 2022, Service SA phoned Mr egarding concession for his vehicle registration.

Service SA advised, for a vehicle registered in joint names to be eligible for the concession rate, both joint owners must be entitled to concession.

was advised he could transfer his vehicle to his name only, free of charge, however he would be required to provide a statutory declaration. This would allow the concession to be applied to the vehicle, saving him \$120 per year.

Service SA advised Mr that concession rates could be applied to the vehicle's registration when his wife is eligible to receive concession.

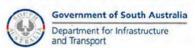
Mr asked if he were to pass away would it make it difficult to transfer the vehicle into his wife's name only? Service SA advised Mr Clause othat a transfer registration into one client's name can be completed when one of the joint owners becomes deceased.

stated he can apply for a housing concession regardless of joint ownership. Service SA advised Mr that applying concession to joint vehicle ownership could be discussed as a potential business improvement.

advised that the vehicle should remain in joint names until his wife was eligible for concession in two years' time.

# Kind regards

Office of the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining



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From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 25 October 2022 3:00 PM

**To:** Karastamatis, Anthony (DIT) < <u>Anthony.Karastamatis@sa.gov.au</u>> **Cc:** DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < <u>minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au</u>>

Subject: FW: Pensioner concession for car registration.

Dear Anthony,

I hope this email finds you well. We have received an constituent enquiry from Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

St Agnes, regarding the application for the age pension concession for car registration.

Mr (1) has informed me that due to the vehicle being legally under both himself and his wife, his application for the concession was denied as it was not subject to the criteria of eligibility.

Mr (1) further explains that in order to receive the concession he would need to change the car ownership to his name only to qualify, as his wife is not currently under the age pension system.

Mr clause 6 is seeking greater clarification on this issue, and whether if his current circumstances render him unable to receive the concession.

Mr Clause 6 is wishing confirmation either written or verbally from a senior officer from the Department regarding his concerns. He can be contacted on alternatively, Personal Affairs

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate on contacting us back on (08) 8264 4482, alternatively, newland@parliament.sa.gov.au.

Sincerely,

Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer
Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland





#### The Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP



22MEM3295

Ms Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland Office 4, 1257 North East Road RIDGEHAVEN SA 5097 Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining Level 14, 83 Pirie Street Adelaide SA 5000 GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001

Tel 08 7133 1100 minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

# newland@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Savvas

Thank you for your correspondence received on 27 September 2022, on behalf of your constituent Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs program.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding, but this has primarily been due the Department for Energy and Mining investigating and ultimately successfully resolving the issues raised by Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

Mr (1) registered his interest to participate in the Switch for Solar program (Program) and accepted a proposal from the Sharpe Group to have a solar photovoltaic (PV) system installed. Unfortunately, the Sharpe Group, who were contracted as an installation partner to the Program, withdrew in late 2021 citing cost increases from global supply chain constraints.

As a result, Mr (1)— was required to have an additional site visit by ZEN Energy, the remaining solar PV installation partner to the Program. At this site visit ZEN Energy's licenced electrician calculated that the small cable size from Mr (1)—SA Power Networks' fuse to his switchboard would result in the maximum allowed voltage drop of 2% being exceeded.

This means that under Australian Standard 5033:2019 Mr (1)—property is currently unsuitable for the installation of a solar PV system. To resolve this issue, a cable upgrade would be required. As this would result in additional out of pocket costs to Mr that may not be reasonably recovered from solar PV savings, the site was assessed as unsuitable for the Program. In July 2022, a letter was issued to Mr (1)—by the Department for Human Services to advise him of this outcome.

Given Mr Personal circumstances and experience with the Program to date, the Department for Energy and Mining facilitated ZEN Energy to re-attend his home to identify a solution compliant with the Australian Standard to allow the installation of a solar PV system. As a result, an upgrade to the main cable connecting Mr Clause 6 (1)-Personal

A revised proposal to join the Program was issued to Mr (1)- detailing estimated savings of \$551 per annum from the installation of a solar PV system. The estimated savings figure quoted is based on Mr Personal current electricity usage of 7kWh per day and average solar PV system generation of 17 kWh per day. The additional electricity will be available during periods of solar generation for Mr (1)- to use with household appliances, such as air conditioning.

I understand that Mr has accepted this proposal, and his installation was completed on 1 December 2022. SA Power Networks will attend site in the coming weeks to enable the upgrade of the mains cable and the system to be energised.

Aside from considering joining the Program, Mr (1) may like to speak to the Government's free energy advisory service which is available to all South Australians at 08 8204 1888 (metro callers) or 1800 671 907 (country callers).

He may also benefit from speaking with electricity retailers to access the Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme. This Scheme requires electricity retailers to support eligible South Australian residential households to achieve energy savings through appliance and other household upgrades. More information regarding this program can be found at <a href="https://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/industry/reps/overview">https://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/industry/reps/overview</a>.

Yours sincerely

Hop Tom Koutsantonis MP

Minister for Energy and Mining

19 1/2 /2022

From: DIT: Minister Koutsantonis

Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2022 10:00 AM To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: 22MIT4273 - Response from Minister Tom Koutsantonis MP

#### OFFICIAL

Dear Ms Savvas

Thank you for your email from your office dated 17 November 2022, on behalf of a constituent, about road resurfacing works on Montague Road from Reservoir Road to North East Road, Modbury.

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) advises that the Montague Road (North East Road to Reservoir Road) resurfacing works are part of the Department's State Periodic Maintenance Program.

The resurfacing works commenced on 26 September 2022, with completion expected at the end of January 2023, weather permitting. This project has been undertaken in conjunction with bike lane extension works and street scaping undertaken by the City of Tea Tree Gully.

The asphalt components of these works were completed on 28 October 2022. The Department has inspected the works and is satisfied with the quality of the works completed.

Surface testing, including roughness will be undertaken to confirm the surface meets the Department's requirements in December 2022.

Yours sincerely

#### Office of the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining



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From: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis

Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 9:38 AM To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: 23MEM5039 CONVERSION OF GAS TO ELECTRICITY

#### **OFFICIAL**

Dear Sav.

This is in response to your email of 3 January about constituent Personal Affairs Agnes and conversion of his household from gas to electric.



You can advise Mr Clause 6 (1) -



Thank you for your enquiry about the possibility of receiving financial assistance to change your household appliances from gas to electric.

The federal government is considering a scheme which will provide some assistance for households making the change.

While not a matter for the State Government, it has been reported that the scheme is still under development, and it is expected details of how it might work will be announced in the forthcoming 2023-24 federal Budget.

From a South Australian perspective, the Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme assists households to be more energy efficient.

Details on eligibility, the types of activities available and other matters can be accessed here: www.escosa.sa.gov.au/industry/reps/overview/reps.

Consumers are also able to receive free, independent energy advice from a State Government service.

Contact details for the service are here: www.sa.gov.au/topics/energy-andenvironment/energy-advice-and-education/energy-advisory-service.

We hope this information will assist you.

Office of the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP



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From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 3 January 2023 2:35 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au> Subject: 23MEM5039 CONVERSION OF GAS TO ELECTRICITY

Dear Minister's Office

I hope this email finds you well.

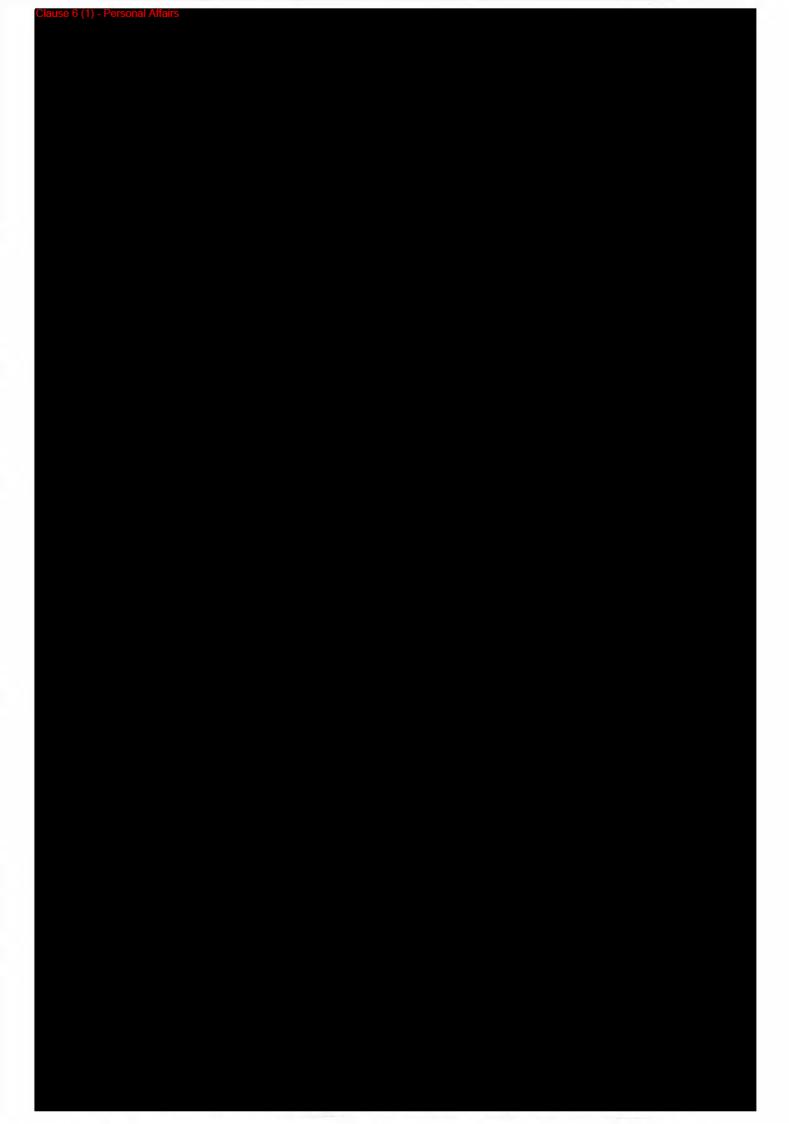
Are you able to provide any information regarding rebates/incentives for residents who would like to transition from gas to electricity.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you require further details.

Kind regards
Sav

Office Manager
OFFICE OF OLIVIA SAVVAS MP | MEMBER FOR NEWLAND





From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 2:23 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis <minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 23MEM5221 - Minister Koutsantonis - Constituent Enquiry of



120123

Dear Minister,

I hope this email finds you well. I have received correspondence from Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs
Hope Valley regarding his concerns about the decrease in electricity feed-in-tariffs (FIT).

Mr clause of installed his solar panels on his property four years ago, when the FIT was at 18c/kW, this at the time, was a third of the retail cost for electricity. However, at current market prices, and after changing electricity providers, this has decreased significantly to 3c/kW.

He is requesting for the Government to investigate this matter, and for the FIT rate to be that of the retail consumer price. He is of the opinion that 3c/kW is not financially rational for anyone seeking to invest into solar energy.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate on contacting us back on (08) 8264 4482, alternatively, <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

## Sincerely,

# Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland



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# Cathro, Vicky (DIT)

From:

Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent:

Monday, 16 January 2023 3:05 PM

To:

Karastamatis, Anthony (DIT)

Subject:

Personal Affairs

Drivers Licence letter

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Completed

Hi Anthony,

Thank you for taking my call today.

As discussed, a constituent Personal Affairs suffered a stroke in April 2022 and as a result lost his licence. He has since sat driving lessons and on 6 January 2023, successfully passed his driving test to regain his licence.

He would like to know the reason it will take 4-6 weeks to receive his official pass letter, to allow him to go into Motor Reg to complete the process. As you can imagine after such a long time, Mr (1) - is very eager to have his independence back and be able to drive again.



Ridgehaven SA 5097

Thank you for taking the time to investigate this for us.

Kind Regards

Meagan Johnson
Community Engagement Officer (Mon – Wed)
OFFICE OF OLIVIA SAVVAS MP | MEMBER FOR NEWLAND



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From: Newland EO <Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 5:10 PM

**To:** DIT:Minister Koutsantonis <minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au> **Subject:** 23MIT5274 : FS-11931 Future upgrade - Reservoir Road

Dear Minister,

I hope this email finds you well. I write in relation to Mr Personal Affairs

Clause 6 (1) - Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

Of Affairs

(1) - Personal Affairs

(1) - Personal Affairs

Mr(1)- has several concerns surrounding the road maintenance of Reservoir Road, between Modbury Hospital and Grand Junction Road, and the neighbouring roundabout, at the intersection of Smart and Reservoir Road/s.

- When was the last DIT traffic study on the roundabout last conducted?
- When was the last time Reservoir Road last resurfaced?

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate on contacting us back on (08) 8264 4482, alternatively, <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

Sincerely,

## Ulian Cox | Electorate Officer

Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland



Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

Out of Scope



From: Newland EO <Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, January 20, 2023 1:02 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis <minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 22MIT1691 Minister Koutsantonis - Constituent Enquiry of

Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

Office of

Olivia Savvas MP - 200123

Dear Minister.

I hope this email finds you well. Find attached is a constituent enquiry of Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs of Personal Aff

Mr Clause 6 (1) has concerns surrounding the level of noise emitted from the buses travelling down the O-Bahn to Tea Tree Plaza. The matter has been ongoing since February 2022.

Mr Personal has advised me that he is only one of many residents who have expressed sim lar concerns surrounding the matter. He is of the opinion that the expansion of the "Park'n'Ride" at the TTP Interchange would result in increased noise.

Mr Personal Affairs urther mentions that he had recently sent a constituent enquiry to the Minister's office, however he had received no response (find below). He is seeking these concerns to be addressed accordingly.

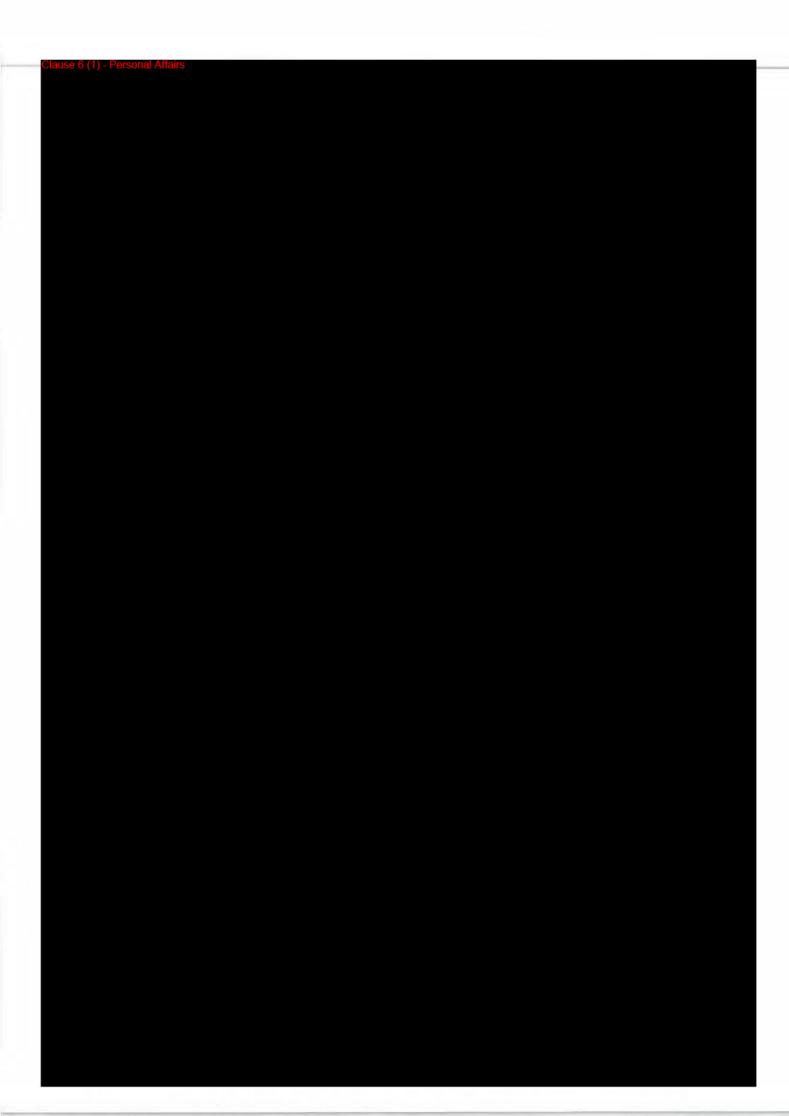
If there's any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us back on (08) 8264 4482, alternatively, newland@parliament.sa.gov.au.

Sincerely,

Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer
Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland











Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5001

By Email: minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

I write to you on behalf of Mr St Agnes regarding his experiences on the public transportation network.

Mr (1) has expressed several issues he had experienced when commuting. These issues range from the lateness of buses arriving on time, maintenance and safety issues at the Tea Tree Plaza Interchange, and suggestions on improving the efficiency of passenger embarkment.

Mr (1) has attempted to contact Adelaide Metro regarding this matter, however, has 1001 received a response.

Please find enclosed the issues and correspondence provided to me by Mr concerning this matter.

Clause 6 (1) -Personal Affairs

I appreciate your consideration of this matter and I look forward to receiving your response so that I can reply to Mr Clause 6 (1)

Personal

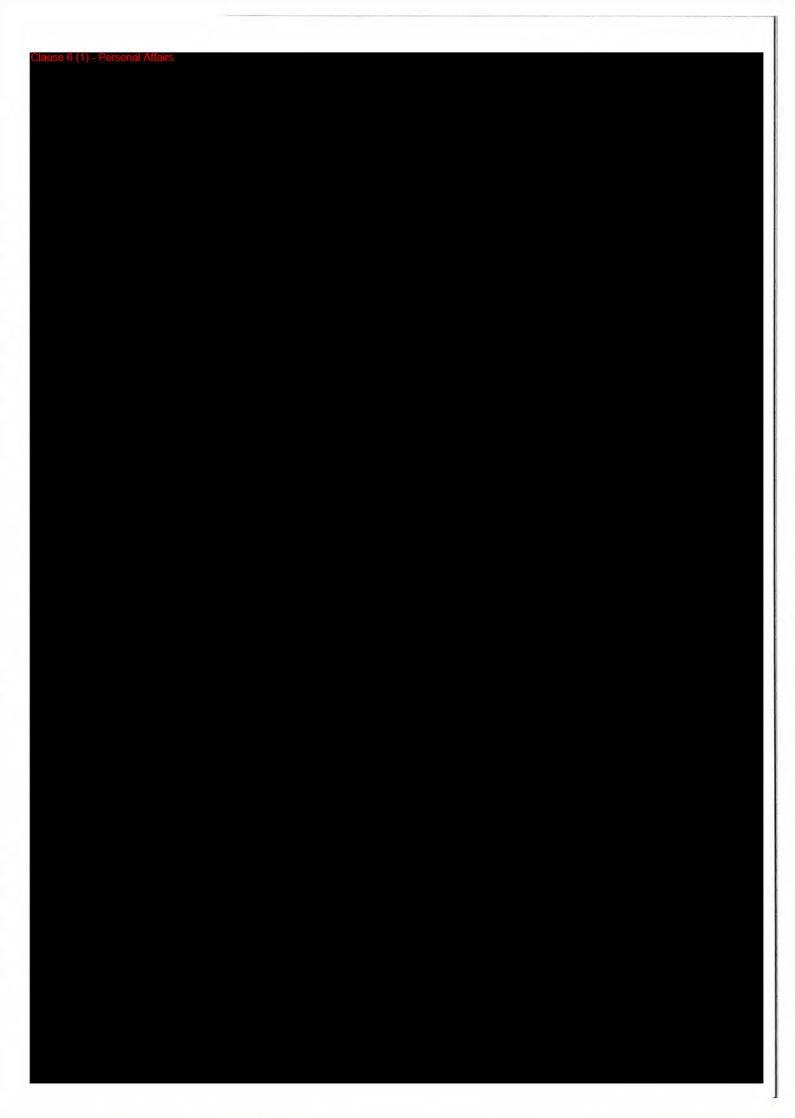
If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact my office on 8264 4482 or <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

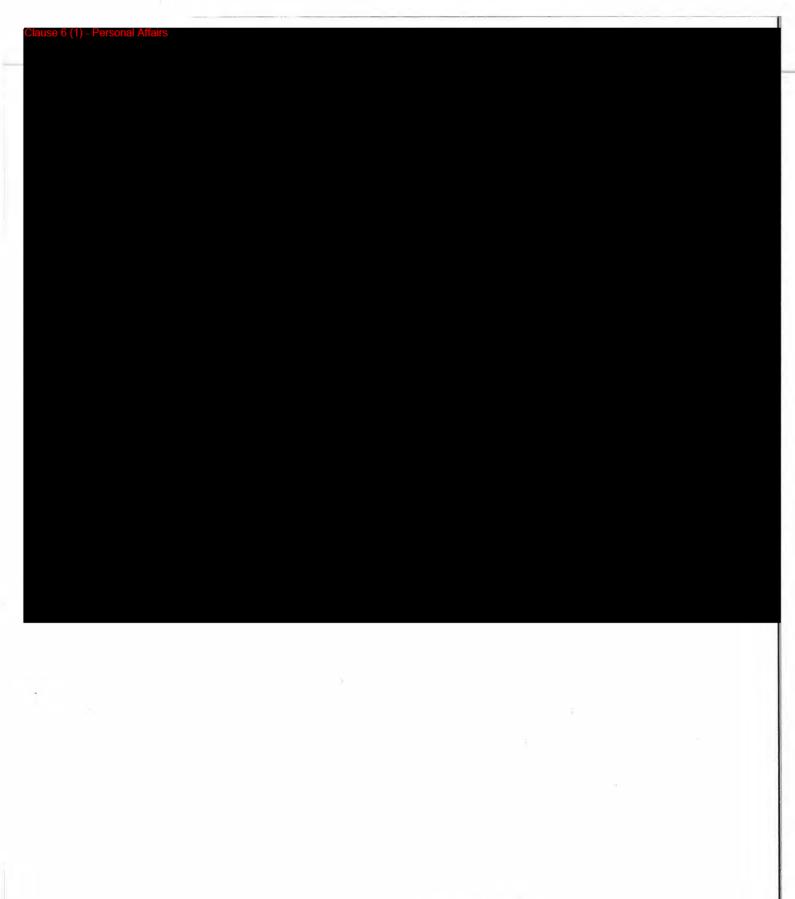
Yours sincerely,

Olivia Savvas MP

Member for Newland

23 January 2023







Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5001

By Email: minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

I write to you on behalf of Mr

Hope Valley.

Mr (1). It is concerned with the effectiveness of the public transport network in delivering services on time. He has informed me that he boards the 557 and 556 bus services at Stop 37A on Valley Road to get to work. Unfortunately, the service has declined to the point that it has become unusable. The buses are routinely behind schedule affecting his ability to get to work on time.

Mr has contacted Torrens Transit on multiple occasions to resolve this matter, with no success.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter and I look forward to receiving your response so that I can reply to Mr (1)-

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact my office on 8264 4482 or <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland

ania Jawas

23 January 2023

From: DIT: Minister Koutsantonis Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 3:04 PM

To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: 22MIT4073 RE: 051022 Constituent Enquiry of

#### OFFICIAL

After further investigation, While the Minister appreciates receiving your correspondence, please be advised that the matters raised in your correspondence fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, The Hon. Joe Szakacs MP. Accordingly, your correspondence has been referred to that office for consideration.

#### Yours sincerely

Office of the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining



L14, 83 Pirie Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000 • GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5001



















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From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2022 5:20 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < Minister. Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au >

Subject: RE: 22MIT4073 RE: 51022 Constituent Enquiry of

Hi Vicky,

Unfortunately, there was a bit of miscommunication with Council. The actual location that the constituent has concerns is the pedestrian crossing between Torrens Valley International Residence (TVIR) and Tea Tree Plaza (image attached).

Sincerely,

### Ulian Cox | Electorate Officer

Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland



From: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < Minister.Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au >

Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2022 4:28 PM

To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: 22MIT4073 RE:

Constituent Enquiry of

Clause 6 (1) -Personal Affairs 051022

## **OFFICIAL**

Thanks Ulian. I should have mentioned this earlier also, but in the below email dated 4 November from Mr Clause 6 (1) - Personal the mentions attaching a photo of a traffic light warning sign.

Could you also please provide?

Vicky

From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2022 4:21 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < Minister. Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: 22MIT4073 RE: Personal Affairs Constituent Enquiry of Rania Mohtar - 051022

Dear Vicky,

I hope this email finds you well. I have attached the correspondence from the constituent here.

Sincerely,

Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer
Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland



From: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < Minister.Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au >

Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2022 3:25 PM

To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au >

Subject: RE: 22MIT4073 RE: Clause 6 (1) - Constituent Enquiry of Rania Mohtar - 051022

**OFFICIAL** 

Hi Ulian

Thanks for your email. Could you please forward a copy of Ms Personal Affairs correspondence?

Kind Regards

Vicky

From: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au >

Sent: Tuesday, 8 November 2022 12:20 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis < minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 22MIT4073 RE: Personal Affairs

Constituent Enquiry of Personal Affairs

051022

Dear Minister,

I hope this email finds you well. Find attached a letter from the Member for Newland, Olivia Savvas MP, regarding concerns from a local constituent, Ms Affairs

This was first addressed and sent to the Council for a response, however, the City of Tea Tree Gully have informed me that this section of Smart Road, Modbury is under the authority of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and were unable to comment.

However, the concerns that the constituent is raising are nevertheless the same.

If there's anything you need, please don't hesitate to contact Olivia's office on (08) 8264 4484, alternatively, newland@parliament.sa.gov.au.

Sincerely,

# Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland











22MEM4441

Government of South Australia

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining

Level 14, 83 Pirie Street Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001 Tel 08 7133 1100

minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Ms Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland Office 4, 1257 North East Rd RIDGEHAVEN SA 5097

newland@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Saxvas Olima

Thank you for your correspondence dated 24 November 2022, about a recent power supply incident on appliances. St Agnes, which caused damage to your constituents'

SA Power Networks (SAPN) is liable for claims where they are negligent or have acted in bad faith. However, when the Liberal Government privatised our essential electricity assets, they gave SAPN the ability to review itself.

SAPN has completed its review of itself and concluded it was not culpable for the damage to your constituents' appliances. This existing process is entirely unsatisfactory.

Accordingly, I have instructed the Department for Energy and Mining to develop options for the Government to consider to address this issue, including reviewing whether any changes to the process can be retrospective so that your constituents can benefit from any future changes.

I will be in contact with you again once my Department has briefed me on the options available to the Government.

Yours sincerely

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Energy and Mining

low Mon

3/ //2023



23MEM5221

and Transport
Minister for Energy and
Mining
Level 14, 83 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 1533
Adelaide SA 5001
Tel 08 7133 1100

minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Minister for Infrastructure

Ms Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland 4/1257 North East Road RIDGEHAVEN SA 5097

newland@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Savvas

Thank you for your correspondence dated 12 January 2023 on behalf of your constituent, Mr Personal Affairs about retailer feed-in tariffs.

Olima,

The continued growth in solar generation has lowered electricity bills for thousands of South Australians but also led to the challenge of generating significantly more electricity in the middle of the day than in the past.

Wholesale electricity prices constantly fluctuate with supply and demand on the electricity grid. During the middle of the day, when consumers with solar are typically exporting, the price of electricity is very low and can sometimes even be negative.

Feed-in tariffs are effectively what a retailer pays to buy energy from a solar customer instead of buying that energy from the wholesale market. Consequently, retailers have reduced their tariffs to reflect the lower price of electricity during peak solar times. This is not a government decision.

Understandably, many householders exporting their solar energy into the grid feel it is unfair their retailer's feed-in tariff is considerably less than what the retailer charges for energy the household draws from the grid. Most feed-in tariffs from retailers are far less than 10c per kilowatt hour but the retailer may charge well above 30c per kilowatt hour for energy they sell to the household. However, it is also useful to realise the comparison is not like-for-like.

Residential electricity bills bundle together several components to reach the price charged to the household. The Australian Energy Market Commission's most recent report on prices estimated an average SA bill comprised the cost of wholesale power (31.5%) plus network costs for poles and wires and metering (46%), environmental policies (8.5%), and the costs of the retailer providing a service with a retailer margin (14%). The retail feed-in tariff for solar is therefore most comparable to the wholesale component alone.

Electricity pricing is monitored by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and they have powers under federal energy market misconduct legislation to protect consumers from excessively high prices. Additionally, the Australian Energy Regulator has powers to ensure businesses follow the market rules, including abiding by protections for vulnerable customers.

A new conversation needs to happen about the best way for consumers to take advantage of their solar. If their system is not eligible and receiving the additional 44 cent distributor feed-in tariff, then the biggest savings are gained by a household using their own solar power as much as possible to minimise drawing energy from the grid.

Measures like shifting as much energy use as possible to better align with daytime solar production can help achieve this. Retailers now offer time-of-use (ToU) tariffs for what they charge households – typically charging more in the morning and evening but much less in the middle of the day and late at night. Many household appliances, such as dishwashers and washing machines, can be programmed for a delayed start, and shifting more electric heating and cooling use to maximise solar energy use or to take advantage of a cheaper period on a ToU energy plan could offer significant savings.

The South Australian Government's Energy Advisory Service is a free service that provides independent information on energy topics. I encourage Mr (1) to use this service to discuss how his solar panels can work best for him by call 1888 or emailing energyadvice@sa.gov.au.

Mon

Yours sincerely

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Energy and Mining

2/2/2023

From: Newland EO <Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:18 PM

To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis <minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 23MIT5827 Minister Koutsantonis - Constituent Enquiry of Mrs Personal Affairs Office of

Olivia Savvas MP - 090223

Dear Minister.

I hope this email finds you well. Find attached is a constituent email of Mrs Affairs of Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs Ridgehaven regarding an absence of an audible warning sound at the intersection of Golden Grove Road and North East Road.

Mrs (1) has informed me that her husband is legally blind, and this has resulted in a significant concern in terms of their safety to cross the road.

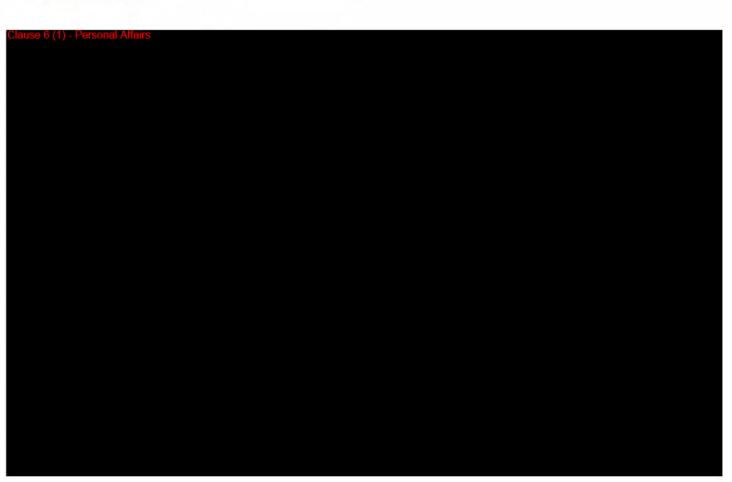
If the Department can investigate and rectify this matter at the earliest possible basis.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us back on (08) 8264 4482, alternatively, <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

Sincerely,

# Ulian Cox I Electorate Officer Office of Olivia Savvas MP I Member for Newland





From: DIT: Minister Koutsantonis

Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 4:19 PM

To: Newland EO < Newland@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: 23MIT5522

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

#### Dear Ms Savvas

Thank you for your letter dated 23 January 2023, on behalf of Mr Porcopal Affairs about the reliability of the route 557 and 556 bus services.

Mr clause also recently contacted my office directly about this matter and we asked the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) to respond to him on our behalf. We have enclosed a copy of the Department's response for information.

## Yours sincerely

Office of the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Energy and Mining



L14, 83 Pirie Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000 • GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5001

















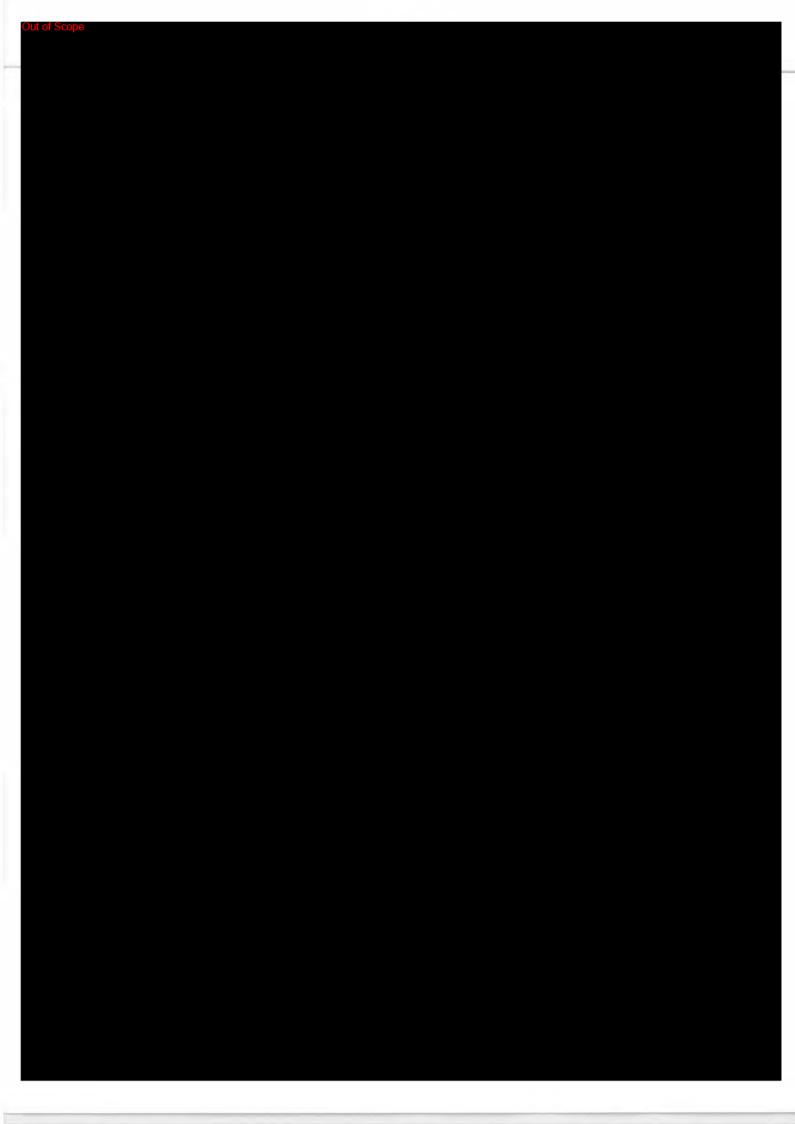


The Department for Infrastructure and Transport acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Country throughout South Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land and waters. We pay our respects to the diversity of cultures, significance of contributions and to Elders past, present and emerging.

We are committed to creating a diverse and inclusive culture where everyone is valued and respected,

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Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5001

By Email: minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

I write to you on behalf of

Hope Valley.

Please find enclosed correspondence provided to me by Ms (1) - concerning this matter.

l appreciate your consideration of this matter and I look forward to receiving your response so that I can reply to Ms Clause 6 (1) - Personal

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact my office on 8264 4482 or <a href="mailto:newland@parliament.sa.gov.au">newland@parliament.sa.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland

15 February 2023

Colivia Jamas

Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs	