Exclusion of the Public

Tuesday, 12 December 2023

Council

Program Contact:Alana Martin, Manager Governance

Approving Officer:
Clare Mockler, Chief
Executive Officer

2018/04291 Public

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), states that a Council may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if the Council considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.

It is the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer that the public be excluded from this Council meeting for the consideration of information and matters contained in the Agenda.

For the following Reports for Recommendation to Council seeking consideration in confidence

- 24.1 Hilton Leasing Matter [section 90(3) (b) and (d) of the Act]
- **24.2** Appointment of Adelaide Economic Development Agency Board Members [section 90(3) (a) of the Act]
- **24.3** Appointment of Independent Council Assessment Panel Members [section 90(3) (a) of the Act]
- 24.4 Citizen of the Year Awards [section 90(3) (o) of the Act]
- 24.5 Capital City Committee Update [section 90(3) (j) and (g) of the Act]

The Order to Exclude for Item 24.1, 24.2, 24.3, 24.4 and 24.5:

- 1. Identifies the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
- 2. Identifies the <u>basis</u> how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
- 3. In addition, identifies for the following grounds section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act how information open to the public would be contrary to the <u>public interest</u>.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 24.1

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (b) and (d) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 24.1 [Hilton Leasing Matter] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item contains certain information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting business, prejudice the commercial position of the council and prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information and confer a commercial advantage to a third party.

More specifically, the disclosure of certain information in this report could reasonably prejudice the commercial position of the council including its future commercial dealings given that it contains financial information and further direction with regard to Council's land holding.

Public Interest

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances given that the information in this report, including certain financial information and further direction, may prejudice its future commercial dealings within regard to its land holding. On this basis, the disclosure of such information may severely prejudice the City of Adelaide Council's ability to influence the proposal for the benefit of the City of Adelaide Council and the community in this matter.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 24.1 [Hilton Leasing Matter] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (b) and (d) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 24.2

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (a) and section 90(2) & (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 24.2 [Appointment of Adelaide Economic Development Agency Board Members] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item contains confidential information that must be considered in confidence in order to protect the personal affairs of the nominee.

Public discussion and disclosure of information in this report prior to a resolution being determined by Council may potentially implicate the nominee's reputation in the business community.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 24.2 [Appointment of Adelaide Economic Development Agency Board Members] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (a) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 24.3

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (a) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 24.3 [Appointment of Independent Council Assessment Panel Members] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item is confidential as the expressions of interest contain personal information, the disclosure of which could represent an unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

The Council is satisfied the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information would unduly impact applicants who have expressed an interest to join the Council Assessment Panel in confidence.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 24.3 [Appointment of Independent Council Assessment Panel Members] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (a) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 24.4

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (o) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 24.4 [Citizen of the Year Awards] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item is confidential as it contains information relating to recommend award recipients prior to the presentation of the awards at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony scheduled for Thursday, 25 January 2024.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 24.4 [Citizen of the Year Awards] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (o) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 24.5

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (j) and (g) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 24.5 [Capital City Committee Update] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

The disclosure of information in this report would breach 'Cabinet in confidence' information presented to the Capital City Committee (CCC) established under the *City of Adelaide Act 1998* which has provided for a State/Capital City inter-governmental forum (the CCC) to operate and the associated duty of confidence and duty as a member of the inter-governmental forum.

Public Interest

The Committee is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information would divulge information provided on a confidential basis, and would be acting contrary to the CCC operational provisions, and could undermine the CCC operations and prejudice the position of the State Government and/or Council in relation to current/future proposals prior to State Government and/or City of Adelaide evaluation and deliberation.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the Council dated 12 December 2023 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 24.5 [Capital City Committee Update] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (j) and (g) of the Act.

Council - Agenda - Tuesday, 12 December 2023

DISCUSSION

- 1. Section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act) directs that a meeting of Council must be conducted in a place open to the public.
- 2. Section 90(2) of the Act, states that a Council may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if Council considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.
- 3. Section 90(3) of the Act prescribes the information and matters that a Council may order that the public be excluded from.
- 4. Section 90(4) of the Act, advises that in considering whether an order should be made to exclude the public under section 90(2) of the Act, it is irrelevant that discussion of a matter in public may -
 - '(a) cause embarrassment to the council or council committee concerned, or to members or employees of the council: or
 - (b) cause a loss of confidence in the council or council committee; or
 - (c) involve discussion of a matter that is controversial within the council area; or
 - (d) make the council susceptible to adverse criticism.'
- 5. Section 90(7) of the Act requires that an order to exclude the public:
 - 5.1 Identify the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
 - 5.2 Identify the basis how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
 - 5.3 In addition identify for the following grounds section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act how information open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.
- 6. Section 83(5) of the Act has been utilised to identify in the Agenda and on the Report for the meeting, that the following reports are submitted seeking consideration in confidence.
 - 6.1 Information contained in Item 24.1 Hilton Leasing Matter
 - 6.1.1 Is subject to Existing Confidentiality Orders dated 3/10/2023, 7/11/2023 and 14/11/2023.
 - 6.1.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (b) and (d) of the Act
 - (b) information the disclosure of which -
 - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest;
 - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which-
 - could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest;
 - 6.2 Information contained in Item 24.2 Appointment of Adelaide Economic Development Agency Board Members
 - 6.2.1 Is not subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order
 - 6.2.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (a) of the Act
 - (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);
 - 6.3 Information contained in Item 24.3 Appointment of Independent Council Assessment Panel Members
 - 6.3.1 Is not subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order
 - 6.3.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (a) of the Act

- (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);
- 6.4 Information contained in Item 24.4 Citizen of the Year Awards
 - 6.4.1 Is not subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order
 - 6.4.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (o) of the Act
 - (o) information relating to a proposed award recipient before the presentation of the award
- 6.5 Information contained in Item 24.5 Capital City Committee Update
 - 6.5.1 Is not subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order
 - 6.5.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (j) and (g) of the Act
 - (j) information the disclosure of which—
 - (i) would divulge information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, or another public authority or official (not being an employee of the council, or a person engaged by the council); and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

(g) matters that must be considered in confidence to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -