

Council Member
Councillor Couros

Public

Contact Officer:
Amanda McIlroy, Chief
Operating Officer

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Couros will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council

1. Notes that on 1 November 2022 The Advertiser reported the Electoral Commission of South Australia (ECSA) was investigating allegations of voter fraud centred around international students within the City of Adelaide periodic elections.
2. Notes on 3 November 2022 Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, as a Lord Mayoral candidate, wrote to the Commissioner detailing that she believed "international students are not the only enrolled voters in the City of Adelaide who appear to have fallen victim to potential illegal activity".
3. Notes that on 14 November 2022 the Electoral Commissioner made public statements on ABC radio during which he stated that ECSA's investigation had confirmed that illegal practices had occurred within the City of Adelaide periodic election.
4. Requests the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) write to ECSA requesting a public briefing on the outcome of the investigation.
5. Requests the CEO holds a public briefing on how the City of Adelaide administers the Supplementary Roll before the end of December, and that the briefing includes the process used for validating enrolments and whether all those who applied to be on the Supplementary Roll were contacted by the City of Adelaide.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. The Electoral Commission of South Australia (ECSA) was founded in 1907 and is the statutory independent agency responsible for conducting state and council elections in South Australia.
2. ECSA has conducted elections for 112 years and is the most experienced provider of election services in South Australia. They have a trusted record of electoral integrity and a reputation for transparency and impartiality.
3. If the motion is carried, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will write to ECSA and request a public briefing on the outcome of the investigation into voter fraud centred around international students within the City of Adelaide (CoA), noting that ECSA are bound by confidentiality and privacy provisions.
4. If the motion is carried, the CEO will facilitate a briefing for Councillors as soon as practicable on how the CoA administers the Supplementary Roll, including the process used for validating enrolments, and contact made with those who applied to be on the Supplementary Roll.

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:	
Public consultation	Not applicable
External consultant advice	Not applicable
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Not applicable
Impacts on existing projects	Not applicable
Budget reallocation	Not applicable
Capital investment	Not applicable
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	It will take staff approximately 2 hours to prepare a non-mandatory briefing.
Other	Not applicable
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.

- END OF REPORT -