

Exclusion of the Public

Tuesday, 4 April 2023
**City Planning,
Development and Business
Affairs Committee**

Program Contact:
Alana Martin, Manager
Governance 8203 7092

2018/04291
Public

Approving Officer:
Clare Mockler, Chief
Executive Officer

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 City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee 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 City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee meeting for the consideration of information and matters contained in the Agenda.

For the following Chief Executive Officer Reports seeking consideration in confidence

- 8.1** Former Bus Station Site – Expression of Interest Process [section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act]
- 8.2** Commercial Offer – Telecommunications Smart Hub [section 90(3) (b) & (h) of the Act]

The Order to Exclude for Items 8.1 and 8.2:

1. Identifies the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
2. Identifies 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.
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 public interest.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 8.1

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (b) & (d) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 4 April 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 8.1 [Former Bus Station Site – Expression of Interest Process] 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 certain confidential information (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person which 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.

The disclosure of information in this report could reasonably prejudice the commercial position of the Council with respect to its commercial dealings with the land as well as prejudice the commercial position of parties who have supplied intellectual property and commercial in confidence information.

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 in this report, including certain financial information and further direction, may prejudice Council's future commercial dealings regarding its strategic land holding. In addition, information within this report contains the intellectual property and commercial in confidence information of parties who have supplied information which if released could negatively impact Council. On this basis, the disclosure of such information may severely prejudice the City of Adelaide's ability to influence the proposal for the benefit of the City of Adelaide and community in this matter.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 4 April 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 8.1 [Former Bus Station Site – Expression of Interest Process] 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) & (d) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 8.2

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (b) & (h) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 4 April 2023 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 8.2 [Commercial Offer – Telecommunications Smart Hub] 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.

Council has also sought legal opinion on the matter and the advice provided requested that the matter should be considered in confidence due potential litigation associated with Council's decision in respect of the matter.

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 within this update pertains to non-binding commercial negotiations for the Council. The release of such information may severely prejudice the Council's ability to influence a proposal for the benefit of the 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 City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 4 April 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 8.2 [Commercial Offer – Telecommunications Smart Hub] 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) & (h) of the Act.

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 8.1 – Former Bus Station Site – Expression of Interest Process
 - 6.1.1 Is subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order dated 7/3/2023.
 - 6.1.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (b) & (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 –
 - (i) 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 8.2 – Commercial Offer – Telecommunications Smart Hub
 - 6.1.1 Is not subject to an Existing Confidentiality Order.
 - 6.1.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (b) & (h) 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.
 - (h) legal advice.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -