



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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Our ref: 18MCO/0124
Your ref: 7136210

Ms Nat Cook
Member for Hurtle Vale
PO Box 158
WOODCROFT SA 5162

Sent by email: shadowhumanservices@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Cook

Freedom of information application

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act), received by the Office of the Minister for Human Services on 19 October 2018 seeking access to:

Copies of any and all documents (including but not limited to physical and electronic material) regarding DHS or Ministerial Paper 18TDHS/1214.

Unfortunately, a determination was unable to be made within the 30 days, therefore it is considered to be a 'deemed refusal' under section 19(2)(b) of the Act. However, our office has continued to process your application outside of this timeframe. Section 19(2)(a) of the Act provides that an agency can release documents outside of the thirty-day timeframe, and this is still taken to be a determination under the Act.

One document has been identified as falling within the scope of your application and I have determined to release this document in full.

Please find enclosed a copy of the document, and a document schedule containing a brief description of the document.

If you are dissatisfied with my determination, you can seek an internal review by writing to the Minister for Human Services as the Principal Officer of the agency. Your request should be sent within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, may/will be published on the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at

<http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Amanda Hockings, Office Manager, on telephone 8463 3388 or by email at amanda.hockings2@sa.gov.au. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your FOI application, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman SA. Please contact the Ombudsman directly on (08) 8226 8699.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Hockings
ACCREDITED FOI OFFICER

5 / 8 / 2019

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – MCOR/0124

Freedom of information application from the Ms Nat Cook seeking access to Copies of any and all documents (including but not limited to physical and electronic material) regarding DHS or Ministerial Paper 18TDHS/1214.

No	Author	Addressee	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason
1.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services	9/8/2019	Minister Signed Briefing RE: 2019 SA Youth Week Proposal	Released in Full	




TO MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: 2019 SA YOUTH WEEK PROPOSAL

Decision/action required by: 17 / 08 / 2018

Reason: to commence acquisition plan process for opening grants by mid-September 2018

Recommendation	Response
1. That you note this briefing regarding the Department for Human Services' (DHS) proposal for SA Youth Week 2019.	Approved / Not Approved / <u>Noted</u>
2. That you approve the grants structure to be amended to \$2,000 for events, and for \$4,000 to be allocated towards a DHS led launch for SA Youth Week.	<u>Approved</u> / Not Approved / Noted
3. That you approve the theme of SA Youth Week 2019 – 'Participate and Celebrate'.	<u>Approved</u> / Not Approved / Noted
4. That you approve that a Young Member for SA Youth Week 2019 not be appointed, and that young people be engaged through established DHS networks to undertake this role.	<u>Approved</u> / Not Approved / Noted
5. That you approve the dates of SA Youth Week 2019 to be from Wednesday 10 April to Thursday 18 April 2019.	<u>Approved</u> / Not Approved / Noted
Comments: ...Women's Suffrage in Victorian-era South Australia was about "civilising" the decision-making of the colony rather than an early feminist awareness. It was envisaged women still stayed at home and cared for family.	 Hon Michelle Lensink MLC 9/8 / 2018

PURPOSE

To brief you on the Department's proposal for SA Youth Week 2019, and to seek your approval for the SA Youth Week grants structure, theme, dates and Young Member role.

KEY POINTS

- SA Youth Week is the largest annual celebration of young people in South Australia with thousands of young people aged between 12 and 25 years involved each year.
- Formerly known as National Youth Week, the program was re-branded in 2017-18 as a result of the Commonwealth Government ceasing funding for National Youth Week after 30 June 2017.
- The State Government is now the sole funder of SA Youth Week.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

The State Government previously had a three-year agreement (for 2015, 2016 and 2017) with the Commonwealth Department of Education for \$58,793 per annum funding for National Youth Week.

In 2016-17, the budget for National Youth Week totalled \$148,790 (which included the Commonwealth funding contribution) of which \$130,000 was expended on grants, and \$18,790 used for merchandise as well as goods and services.

Due to the loss of Commonwealth funding, the previous Minister for Youth approved for the department to allocate an additional \$10,000 above the Office for Youth budget allocation of \$90,210 to be put out as \$100,000 in grants in 2017-18.

As part of current budget savings measures, it is proposed to reduce funding for SA Youth week in 2018-19 by \$12,000, to \$88,000.

There was minimal response from stakeholders following the reduction of the grants program by \$30,000 in 2017-18. The risk of a negative response to a further reduction in funding is likely to be minimised if communicated to stakeholders as soon as possible.

DISCUSSION

SA Youth Week, which is usually held in the first week of the April school holidays, is the largest annual celebration of young people in South Australia, with thousands of young people aged between 12 and 25 years involved each year.

Formerly known as National Youth Week, the program was re-branded in 2017-18 when the Commonwealth Government ceasing funding for National Youth Week after 30 June 2017. The State Government is now the sole funder of SA Youth Week.

Each year, DHS releases a call for organisations to apply for funding to host SA Youth Week events: Local councils, State Government and non-government agencies working directly with young people are eligible to apply.

A key component of SA Youth Week is the opportunity it provides for young people to participate in the planning and delivery of events in their local government region, and this requirement is embedded in service agreements with organisations.

2018 SAYW Grant Program

Applications for 2018 SA Youth Week Grants opened on 21 August 2017, and three types of funding were available: \$1,500 for an individual event; \$3,000 for collaborative events; and \$5,000 to host the SA Youth Week State Launch.

A total of 50 applications were received to host events, comprising 48 applications for individual and collaborative events, and two for hosting the State Launch. Forty-one applications were awarded funding totalling \$95,000. Organisations in regional and outer metropolitan areas received 60% of the total funding provided.

The City of Onkaparinga was chosen as the host of the launch of SA Youth Week 2018, with a grant of \$5,000. The State Launch, which was scheduled to be held as part of the City of Onkaparinga's Re-Generation Festival, was unfortunately affected by extreme weather conditions on Friday 13 April, and was subsequently downsized considerably, and moved indoors. A number of other scheduled outdoor events were also adversely affected by the weather.

Over 100 funded events and activities were scheduled during the SA Youth Week 2018, including skateboarding workshops, surf schools and outdoor cinema nights.

In 2018, approximately 1,000 young people were involved in the planning and implementation of SA Youth Week events in their local area, and approximately 7,000 young people attended and participated in activities. Participation numbers were down significantly on previous years primarily due to the cancellation of the Regeneration Festival, which was anticipated to attract over 3,000 attendees.

Proposal for SA Youth Week 2019 Grants

Based on planned budget savings measures, the budget for SA Youth Week 2019 (2018-19 budget) will be \$88,000.

In 2019, it is planned that a single tier of grants will be offered to the value of \$2,000 per event / groups of events. This represents an increase of \$500 per individual grant, and a reduction of \$1,000 for collaborative events, although the change will likely result in individual organisations applying for funding rather than in partnership.

Of the \$88,000, it is proposed that a total of \$84,000 be offered through the competitive grants program for SA Youth Week, maintaining the funding available for a total of 42 organisations.

Applications for SA Youth Week grants will open in mid-September.

Proposal for SA Youth Week 2019 Launch

Following your recent approval of the briefing on Strategic Youth Policy and Program Directions (18TDHS/833), which recommended that the Community Services Division convene a meeting of key youth sector stakeholders to explore the potential for a three-year youth strategy, the opportunity exists for the department to participate more directly in SA Youth Week in 2019. To that end, it is recommended that \$4,000 of SA Youth Week funds be retained and directed towards a function relating to the Government's priorities and strategic directions around youth.

Based on outcomes of discussions yet to be held with key youth sector representatives and yourself, DHS could be in a position to combine the launch of SA Youth Week with the launch of the proposed three-year Youth Strategy. This would provide the Government with an opportunity to take part in a more meaningful launch to SA Youth Week celebrations, that incorporates engagement with young people and stakeholders from across the sector, rather than simply incorporating a launch of SA Youth Week into a funded event as has been done in the past.

SA Youth Week Theme

DHS is responsible for setting the annual theme for SA Youth Week. This has previously reflected current Office for Youth objectives, strategies and priorities for South Australia's young people.

Due to the change of Government, and the process for the next iteration of the Youth Strategy only just commencing, a new approach for the theme for SA Youth Week 2019 is proposed.

As you are aware, 2019 is the 125th anniversary of Women's Suffrage in South Australia. This occasion has influenced the theme of SA Youth Week 2019 as we consider ideas around equality, participation and celebration in the youth space. With engagement and participation being key goals for Youth Week, the selected theme for SA Youth Week is 'Participate and Celebrate', and is described as follows:

This theme is a subtle nod to the 125th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in South Australia that will be celebrated in 2019.

In 1894, South Australia became the first jurisdiction in the world to allow women the dual right to both vote and stand for election. 2019 marks 125 years since this revolutionary and progressive step was taken by the Parliament of South Australia to welcome women fully into the political sphere.

Women's Suffrage is about the equal participation of women in politics – as both politicians and as citizens. It is a reminder of the privilege we now have that allows us all to participate fully in our community. It is also a time to celebrate equality, and the diversity of the State that we live in.

With this in mind, we encourage organisers of SA Youth Week activities to consider how they will actively encourage the young people in their communities to participate in the planning of activities and events, and the ways in which young people can come together to celebrate,

Through engaging young people in planning events and activities, we aim to encourage a sense of civic participation and an opportunity for the voices of our young people to be heard as they design SA Youth Week initiatives by young people, for young people.

In 2019, we encourage events and activities that celebrate the diversity of young South Australians, and showcase South Australia's truly inclusive spirit. Every young person has the right to be heard and to participate!

SA Youth Week Young Member

The department has traditionally appointed a Young Member as an ambassador for SA Youth Week. This was previously a requirement of National Youth Week, and had continued through to 2018.

The Young Member is appointed through a call for applications, and applicants are interviewed for the position. It is an unpaid role, with a \$500 honorarium to cover traveling costs to attend events.

The position acts as an ambassador for SA Youth Week, and is primarily involved in promoting the week through the SA Youth Week Facebook page, attending and participating in as many events as possible, and being part of the assessment panel for the grants.

Feedback from the 2018 Young Member has confirmed the department's view about the realistic value of the role. With 60% of events held in outer metropolitan and regional South Australia, it is often difficult for the Young Member to attend events, and relies on the young person either having a driver's licence or having access to transportation. There is no obligation for event organisers to find a role for the Young Member as part of their events, and engagement with organisers can be challenging.

It is therefore recommended that a Young Member for SA Youth Week 2019 not be appointed.

Instead, the department will engage with young people through our established networks to seek their participation on the grants assessment panel and to attend and promote events of local or contextual relevance. This would include inviting the winner and finalists of the Young Achiever Awards Aboriginal Achievement Award, and the winner and finalists of the Young Journalist of the Year Award, both sponsored by DHS, to take part. If needed, DHS will also be able to support successful SA Youth Week grant recipients to connect with local youth ambassadors in their regions.

SA Youth Week 2019 Date

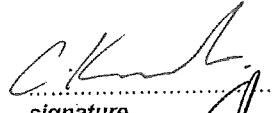
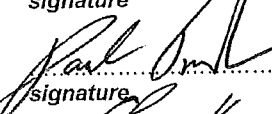

SA Youth Week is traditionally held from the last Friday of Term One, until the Sunday of the second weekend of April school holidays. In 2019, the Easter Long Weekend occurs on this weekend (Friday 19 April to Monday 22 April 2019).

To respond to feedback from some grant recipients that scheduling in the school holidays limits activities that could occur in schools, it is proposed that SA Youth Week 2019 is held from Wednesday 10 April to Saturday 20 April 2019 (Easter Saturday). This will provide scheduled days for activities during the school term, a weekend, and during school holidays.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications No

Based on planned budget savings measures of \$12,000, the budget for SA Youth Week in 2018-19 will be \$88,000. This will be met from within the existing Office for Youth budget – 8734 G104.

Division	Community Services		
Chief Innovation Officer	Chris Karvountzis	 signature	2.15.18
A/Director	Dr Paul Tsoundarou	 signature	2.18.18
Chief Executive	Lors Boswell Tony Harrison	 signature	4.8.18 date

ATTACHMENTS - Nil

Contact Officer:	Lyn Metcalf, Principal Policy & Programs Officer 841 54327 / Lyn.Metcalf2@sa.gov.au
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