



**Government  
of South Australia**

**Minister for Human Services**

Level 12 South  
1 King William Street  
Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 2832  
Adelaide SA 5001  
DX 115  
Tel 08 8463 6560  
Fax 08 8463 4480

**Our ref:** 18MCOR/0125  
**Your ref:** 7136205

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

Sent by email: [shadowhumanservices@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto: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 18 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/1213.*

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](mailto: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

13 / 6 / 2019

**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – MCOR/0125**

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/1213.

| No | Author                       | Addressee                   | Date     | Description of document  | Determination    | Reason |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--|------------------|--------|
| 1. | Department of Human Services | Minister for Human Services | 5/9/2019 | Minister Signed Briefing RE: 2019 Youth Parliament Program Sponsorship | Released in full |        |




TO MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: 2019 YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

Decision/action required by: 31 / 08 / 2018

Reason: to commence negotiations with YMCA to develop their service agreement

| Recommendation  | Response                        |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. That you approve sponsorship of the 2019 Youth Parliament program, delivered by YMCA SA, to the value of \$50,000 (2018-19 budget).  | Approved / Not Approved / Noted |
| 2. That you note that, should you approve continued sponsorship of the program, discussions will be held with YMCA SA to incorporate recognition of the 125 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Suffrage into the 2019 Youth Parliament program. | Approved / Not Approved / Noted |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Comments:</b><br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>.....<br>..... | <br>Hon Michelle Lensink MLC<br>5/9 / 2018 |
|--|--|

**PURPOSE**

To seek your approval to continue sponsorship of the YMCA SA's Youth Parliament program in 2019.

**KEY POINTS**

- The South Australian Youth Parliament program is delivered by YMCA SA, and has been sponsored by the Department of Human Services (DHS) for over ten years.
- In 2017-18, DHS provided sponsorship of \$50,000 towards the costs of running Youth Parliament 2018, which was held from 9 to 13 July.
- The Department is the major sponsor of the Youth Parliament Program in South Australia.

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## RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

As the major sponsor of Youth Parliament in South Australia, a partial or complete withdrawal of funding by the Government would likely have a negative impact on the YMCA SA's ability to deliver the program in 2019. It is unlikely that the YMCA would be successful in attracting corporate sponsorship to make up the shortfall from any potential loss of Government funding, particularly because the focus of the program is on educating young people about the South Australian Parliamentary system, which would be regarded as the purview of Government to support.

## DISCUSSION

The Youth Parliament program, delivered by YMCA SA, educates young people aged 15-25 in the South Australian Parliamentary system. This includes voting procedures, parliamentary etiquette, public speaking, leadership and Bill development. The program also provides the opportunity for young people to express their views on issues that matter to them. Next year marks the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the South Australian Youth Parliament program.

DHS has sponsored YMCA SA to deliver this program for over ten years. Each year, approximately 85 young people from diverse backgrounds participate in the Youth Parliament program. In addition, volunteer taskforce members support the delivery of Youth Parliament and mentor participants.

The YMCA SA has advised that there were approximately 90 participants in the 2018 Youth Parliament program. The Youth Parliamentarians were supported by 16 volunteers aged from 18-25 years, (managed by YMCA staff), who were engaged to run the program through the taskforce.

Youth Parliament Week 2018 was held from 9-13 July, with four sitting days at Parliament House, along with official opening and closing ceremonies. You attended and spoke at both events.

DHS has provided a total of \$50,000 in sponsorship towards the costs of running Youth Parliament in 2018. This funding comprises \$40,000 in base program funding, along with \$10,000 through the former Government's regional scholarship program.

As part of the former Government's 'Charter for Stronger Regional Policy', the regional scholarship program was introduced in 2015 to support more young regional South Australians to participate in Youth Parliament. As a result, the number of regional participants more than doubled in the 2017 program compared to earlier programs years, with 22 of the 81 participants from regional South Australia.

Sponsorship of the Youth Parliament program is funded through the department's Office for Youth budget. Given the success of the regional scholarship program, it is recommended that funding for Youth Parliament be maintained at \$50,000. Further, it is recommended that the clause in the service agreement to ensure that up to \$10,000 of the allocated funds is to be used specifically for the regional scholarships (solely for the travel and accommodation costs of regional participants and regional taskforce members) be retained.

Youth Parliament is regarded as a robust and valuable program for young people in South Australia that provides participants with an in-depth and structured opportunity to experience a unique form of community service and civic participation.

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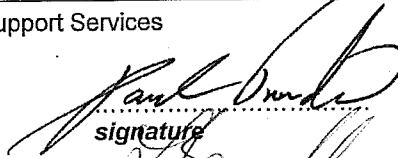
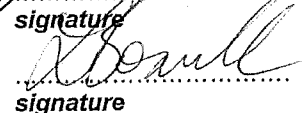
Representatives from the Community Services Division recently met with the Office for Women to discuss their proposal to engage with the Youth Parliament program in 2019 to incorporate recognition of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Suffrage. Following your approval of continued sponsorship of Youth Parliament, discussions will commence with the YMCA SA to determine the best approach.

**BUDGET**

Are there financial implications

No

Sponsorship of the 2019 Youth Parliament program would be met from within the existing Office for Youth budget – 8735 G110 73151.

|  |                                |   |                  |
|--|--------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <b>Division</b>                          | Community and Support Services |   |                  |
| <b>A/Director<br/>Community Services</b> | Paul Tsoundarou                | <br>signature | 6/8/2018<br>date |
| <b>Deputy Chief Executive</b>            | Lois Boswell                   | <br>signature | 9/8/18<br>date   |
| <b>Chief Executive</b>                   | Tony Harrison                  | .....<br>signature  | .....<br>date    |

**ATTACHMENTS - Nil**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | Lyn Metcalf, Principal Policy & Programs Officer<br>841 54327 / <a href="mailto:Lyn.Metcalf2@sa.gov.au">Lyn.Metcalf2@sa.gov.au</a> |
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