



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Stephan Knoll MP
Member for Schubert

FOI Ref: SKNOLL180450

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
Member for West Torrens
229 Henley Beach Road
TORRENSVILLE SA 5031

Dear Mr Koutsantonis

I refer to your application to the Office of the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act) which was received 18 November 2019 requesting access to:

“All documents, correspondence, reports, emails, sms’s and studies relating to Road Tolls and or freight charges held by the Ministers Office including any correspondence, documents, emails and sms’s between the Minister and his office and the Commonwealth Government, Commonwealth Ministers and their staff or any other external agency or consultant.”

A search of documents held by the Office was undertaken. I wish to advise that 5 documents have been identified within the scope of your request.

I have determined to release Document 1, noting that out of scope information has been removed.

I have determined to partially release Documents 2, 4 and 5. I have removed the personal contact details within those documents that I have determined are exempt, in accordance with clause 6(1) of the Act which states:

6—Documents affecting personal affairs

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

Document 3 is a report titled ‘Outer Urban Public Transport’ publicly available at <https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/outer-urban-public-transport-improving-accessibility-lower-density-areas>.

Please refer to the attached schedule that describes each document and sets out my determination and reasons in summary form.

Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government
Minister for Planning

Roma Mitchell House Adelaide SA 5000 | GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001 DX 171
Tel 08 7109 8430 | Email ministerknoll@sa.gov.au



Attached is an explanation of the provisions of the Act which details your rights to review and appeal this determination, and the process to be followed.

In accordance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, if you are given access to documents as a result of this FOI application, details of your application, and the documents to which access is given, will be published in the agency's disclosure log within 90 days from the date of this determination. Any private information will be removed. 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 objection to this publication, please contact us within 30 days of receiving this determination.

Should you have any queries regarding the processing of your application please contact myself on 08 7109 8430 or at ministerknoll@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Jenna Phillips-Wilkinson
Office Manager

27 / 12 / 2019

Encl
Schedule of documents
Documents
Your rights to review and appeal this determination

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991
YOUR RIGHTS TO REVIEW

INTERNAL REVIEW

If you are dissatisfied or concerned with the decision of this Agency regarding access to documents or the request for amendment to your personal records, you can apply for an Internal Review of that decision.

To apply for an Internal Review you must write a letter addressed to the Principal Officer or lodge an Internal Review application form with the Principal Officer of this Agency. The legislated application fee must accompany all applications, unless the fee was waived in the original Freedom of Information application, in which case there would be no fee payable for the application. The application must be lodged within 30 days after being notified of the decision.

The Agency will undertake the Internal Review and advise you of its decision within 14 days of receipt of the application.

Where the decision was made by the Minister or Principal Officer of the Agency, you are unable to request an Internal Review but you can apply for an External Review by the Ombudsman, or SACAT.

You are unable to apply for an Internal Review regarding a decision to extend the time limit for dealing with an application but you can apply for an External Review.

EXTERNAL REVIEW BY THE OMBUDSMAN

If the Agency does not deal with your Internal Review application within 14 calendar days (or you remain unhappy with the outcome of the Internal Review) you are entitled to an External Review by the Ombudsman SA.

You may also request an External Review by the Ombudsman if you have no right to an Internal Review.

The application for review by the Ombudsman should be lodged within 30 days after the date of a determination. The Ombudsman's Office, at their discretion, may extend this time limit.

Investigations by the Ombudsman are free. Further information is available from the Office of the Ombudsman by telephone on 8226 8699 or toll free 1800 182 150 (within SA).

REVIEW BY THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL (SACAT)

If you are still dissatisfied with the decision made by this Agency after an Internal Review or after a review by the Ombudsman, you can request a review from SACAT.

You must exercise your right of review to SACAT within 30 calendar days after being advised of the determination or the results of any other Internal or Ombudsman Review. Any costs will be determined by SACAT, where applicable. For more information, contact;

South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT)
Phone: 1800 723 767 Email: sacat@sacat.sa.gov.au

**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION
NUMBER – SKNOLL180450**

Document Number	Description	Date	Release Determination	Schedule Clause
1	Email	25/2/19	Release	Out of scope information redacted
2	Email	20/9/19	Partial Release	6(1)
3	Email with attachment	25/10/19		Report publically available
4	Email	29/10/19	Partial release	6(1) Out of scope information redacted
5	Letter	8/11/19	Partial release	6(1) Out of scope information redacted

Phillips-Wilkinson, Jenna (DPTI)

From: Jayne Flaherty <JFlaherty@raa.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 February 2019 1:40 PM
To: Taylor, Sarah (DPTI)
Subject: RE: RAA footprint

Hi Sarah,

Thanks for this info. I have gathered some info on my end – let me know if there's anything I may have missed.

[REDACTED]
out of scope
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Road tolls

- Road tolls aren't popular with our members, so we'd publicly oppose the introduction of them for non-commercial vehicles. Separately we're lobbying the federal government for a fairer road user charging system, which we think is best implemented now while the take up of EVs is still low. A different approach to road user charger could supersede road tolls, which could make implementing them now redundant.

- In theory, RAA would support freight tolls. They could work well on the Northern Connector for example.
- It has always been argued by DPTI and previous governments that traffic volumes on Adelaide's roads are insufficient to justify the cost of toll collection compared with what would be earned.

S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Cheers,

Jayne Flaherty
General Manager Government & Public Policy



RAA Group
101 Richmond Road, Mile End SA 5031, Australia
P +61 8 8202 4596 | M 0478 335 544
JFlaherty@raa.com.au | <http://www.raa.com.au>

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Phillips-Wilkinson, Jenna (DPTI)

From: Phillips-Wilkinson, Jenna (DPTI)
Sent: Friday, 20 September 2019 4:30 PM
To: black@parliament.sa.gov.au
Subject: Fwd: News summary - 9/9 - Road tolls =

Hi [REDACTED] s6(1)

Here is the Minister talking recently about tolls in the media.
 Hope this helps.
 Jenna

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Balsamo, Marco (DPTI)
Sent: Monday, 9 September 2019 11:33 AM
Subject: News summary - 9/9 - Road tolls =

- SA Government Media Monitoring Service -

RADIO TALKBACK SUMMARY

9-10am
 Monday, 9 September 2019

ABC RADIO ADELAIDE

Stephan Knoll, Transport & Infrastructure Minister [& Callers] (ABC RADIO ADELAIDE 9.07-9.24) Road tolls / Land tax / Sand carting from Semaphore to West Beach / Rex Jory's suggested changes to the Showgrounds

(Bevan: Good morning to Stephan Knoll ... will your Government consider road tolls?) I think we took a pretty clear policy to the last election not to introduce road tolls in Adelaide and that's still our position today. I think that article in the weekend outlined some pretty broad ideas from right across different sectors, mostly from the private end of South Australia and infrastructure players within the private sector. We are open to using private money and we've seen that with putting out to tender for two public private partnerships for schools, one in ... Angle Vale and the other one ... around Aldinga that we're keen to utilise private money but we don't think that tolls is a way to go for a city like Adelaide (Bevan: That's been your position consistently and you need to hold that position in order to keep your promise because you made that promise ... for several elections now. But could this be your GST? Could you say ... we've kept our promise and coming up to the next election ... you would argue we're a safe pair of hands, we didn't burn the house down, we're looking after you, and we think we could have a road toll as advised by this independent body set up by the Government, Infrastructure SA; could you

take that to the next election and maybe we could see road tolls in the future?) ... I can't speak to what might happen in generations into the future, but we took a pretty clear promise to the people of South Australia. Cabinet continues to reaffirm that position, our party room continues to reaffirm that position, I don't see that changing. But I think that toll roads in the Adelaide context, we'd need to question their usefulness in the first place especially where we've got a grid-like system where if we were to set up a toll you could see people using alternate routes to get around paying that toll. Where we see these interstate, they have much higher levels of congestion but also less opportunity for people to go around those toll roads. The other difficult thing I think is you essentially build into productivity gains from building a road, you then send a price signal to the public that encourages people not to use that road and therefore you don't get the productivity gains that building the thing in the first place was designed to achieve. So, I think ... it isn't just a fait accompli that this is a great idea in the first place but regardless of that we made a clear promise to the people of South Australia and we're keeping it (Bevan: ... we've talked a lot over the last few months about the Liberal Party's base and you've got some significant players in your base – Business SA, the Australian Industry Group, Civil Contractors – they're all asking for these sorts of things to be considered. And these people ... can see how it could work. Are you just saying, it'll work for them, it wouldn't work for Joe public?) I think we do have to speak up on behalf of voters and the broader economy as it stands. Again, tolls are only one way for the private sector to get involved in delivering infrastructure in South Australia. There are other ways and we're keen to utilise those. Again – public private partnerships. I think the Royal Adelaide Hospital as a PPP was a bit of a disaster, one that I know Rob Lucas and Stephen Wade have had to work for 18 months to fix, but we're keen to get back out into the market with the two high schools and to show the private sector that we are mature enough as a Government to come to a deal that works for all parties, delivers the infrastructure we need whilst also making sure that nobody goes broke in the process (Bevan: Laurie has called ...) (Caller Laurie: ... you mentioned tolls there and you said no tolls in the city of Adelaide, you never said South Australia – can you answer that question, please?) ... I can allay your fears there; if we're not thinking of it in Adelaide, I don't think we're sticking them in the regions (Bevan: ... so your commitment is no tolls, no toll roads anywhere in South Australia?) Sure. Yes (Bevan: Are you happy with that, Laurie?) (Caller Laurie: ... I suppose I have to, don't I?) (Bevan: ... a number of people saying, no road tolls. So, whatever these employer organisations ... are smoking, the public aren't buying the stuff. I think that's fair and that's really what's driving the politics of this ...) ... I think we need to look at the efficacy of that as a discrete solution in the first place. I don't think it's just a fait accompli that this is an idea that would work. Again, the traffic volumes we've had in Adelaide are lower, the alternatives that people have for getting around using specific road corridors is much greater than other cities ... thanks to Colonel William Light. So, we have a lot of things that make Adelaide and South Australia different when it comes to traffic and that's why we head down the path we do in terms of ... civil infrastructure building (Bevan: Paul has called ...) (Caller Paul: ... we should have road tolls ... we should have a fantastic road structure and have tolls and if people whinge about it maybe they'll put more people in the cars and not drive down the freeway with one person taking their one child to school) (Bevan: ... do you work as a truckie?) (Caller Paul: I do; I own a prime mover and a couple of trailers ...) (Bevan: So, where would you like to see the infrastructure that a road toll could fund?) (Caller Paul: ... they wouldn't have to worry about paying so much for getting South Road finished. The Adelaide and South Australian road structure is just backward. We need to move trucks out of city, we need to do something eventually about getting trucks around the back from Monarto ... into back of Gawler ... but nobody is going to do it because it's billions of dollars and probably 10 years' work ... to put the rail system and the road system through there. The whole structure of South Australia's road system is so antiquated; even the new Northern Connector is still only going to be two lanes either

way and yet they're going to have ... new housing estates up in the northern part of Adelaide) (Bevan: ... Stephan Knoll what about your GlobeLink proposal? If that comes back and says it could work but the best way to leverage money for that would be a toll? There's a discrete package which is designed more for industry than ... you local commuter; what about that?) ... the Northern Connector is going to be three lanes in each direction ... I agree two wouldn't be forward looking enough. But in relation to GlobeLink, we've got the stage one and two business case that is pretty close to completion ... I should be seeing that in the next few weeks. But ... we were very clear at the election that finishing the North-South Corridor was our number one priority. It's the thing that's going to make the biggest difference to the largest number of road users and if it comes to spending infrastructure money I think we as a Government have shown our willingness to spend money on infrastructure – some \$12 billion over the next four years. And in terms of road construction ... we have projects right across this state - \$1.5 billion in the regions as well as what we're doing in the city – to show we can actually use the existing processes to fund road infrastructure upgrades. In relation to GlobeLink, we'll wait and see what the report says but ... we still remain committed in terms of timing that finishing ... the North-South Corridor being our number one priority (Bevan: But could GlobeLink, because it's such a discrete proposal designed for industry, could that be a toll?) Again ... I fall back on the position we took to the election. I think there is potentially change coming into the future with the advent of electric vehicles. At the moment people pay for their roads through their motor rego but also through fuel excise ... electric vehicles don't pay fuel excise because they don't use any fuel, and I think that is something we're going to have to look at into the future because we'll see an inequity that ... those who use internal combustion engines paying their fair share for roads but people in electric vehicles not. But that's something that needs to be fixed at a federal level ... and I think through that we could look at potentially a different system. But ... again, it's a national problem that requires a national response and ... making sure that we do have a continuing funding stream which currently comes from fuel excise to keep putting money back into roads (Bevan: ... so you might have a toll if you're in an electric car but that's further down the track) ... you'd have go find some way for electric vehicles to help pay for the roads they use ... that's something that's been talked about nationally for quite a while and something we need to get onto because the earlier we do it the better off we are. You don't want to get to a situation where there is a massive inequity between internal combustion engines and electric vehicles and declining fuel excise revenue which means the Federal Government could have less and less to give us in terms of road funding and our share of the national pie of road funding. So, it is an issue we need to deal with I think sooner rather than later (Bevan: There's a good budgetary reason for dealing with it now but there's also a good political reason ... you'll annoy a relatively small number of people when you introduce it now rather than waiting for it to be a big percentage of road users in electric cars and you're going to annoy a lot of people)... you're thinking like a politician ... I do think dealing with this issue early, making sure we set the rules early is what's good for people investing in electric vehicles. You don't want to have a situation where you buy a car and halfway down the track somebody changes the rules on you ... so dealing with this problem early ... is important to maintain that equity but also to provide some certainty going forward.

Marco Balsamo

Media Officer

Customer, Community and Public Affairs

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

Media Line 1300 856 933 • E DLDPTIPBDMedia@sa.gov.au

Level 7, 50 Flinders Street, Adelaide SA 5000 • PO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5001 • DX

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We acknowledge and respect Aboriginal peoples as South Australia's first peoples and nations, we recognise Aboriginal peoples as traditional owners and occupants of land and waters in South Australia and that their spiritual, social, cultural and economic practices come from their traditional lands and waters; and they maintain their cultural and heritage beliefs, languages and laws which are of ongoing importance; We pay our respects to their ancestors and to their Elders. Information contained in this email message may be confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege or public interest immunity. Access to this email by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this document is unauthorised and may be unlawful.

DPTI:Minister Knoll

From: DPC:PCU
Sent: Tuesday, 29 October 2019 11:42 AM
To: DPTI:Minister Knoll
Subject: Direct Response on Behalf of the Premier Due s6(1) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - Privatisation of Roads

Direct Response Required

REPLY DUE DATE
12-11-2019

Premier's Office Reference: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

AUTHOR: s6(1) [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: out of scope [REDACTED] - Privatisation of Roads

ACTION REQUIRED: Please provide a **DIRECT RESPONSE** to the author on the Premier's behalf. Ensure that reference is made to the Premier in the response given by your Minister.

Please follow the link below to a secure workspace where you can access the correspondence and upload a copy of the response once it has been finalised and sent.

Connect Workspace

Please find comments from the Premier's Office below.

[REDACTED]

This email is intended for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for (Stephan Knoll) .

Information contained in this email message may be confidential and may also be the subject of

legal professional privilege or public interest immunity. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this document is unauthorised.

Ministerial Workflow created by DPC Objective Support

Phillips-Wilkinson, Jenna (DPTI)

From: DPC:PCU
Sent: Tuesday, 29 October 2019 11:13 AM
To: DPC:Premier
Subject: FW: General enquiry via DPC website #7658200
Attachments: Steven Marshal toll Roads.docx

For Official Use Only

Hi team,

Can we please register the below and attached on Objective.

Thanks Jas

From: DPC:Communications <DPCCommunications@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 October 2019 11:03 AM
To: DPC:PCU <DPCPCU@sa.gov.au>
Cc: DPC:Communications <DPCCommunications@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: General enquiry via DPC website #7658200

For Official Use Only

To Whom it May Concern,

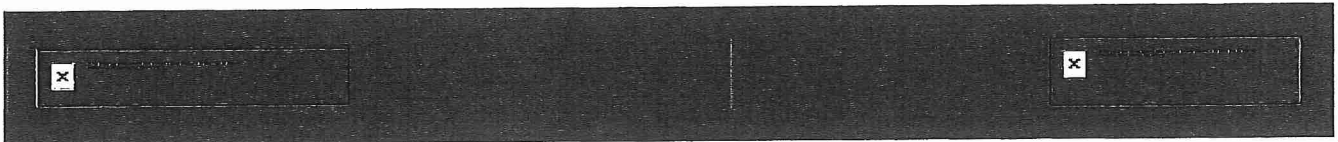
I am forwarding the below correspondence, which we received via the DPC website contact us form, for your action/noting.

Please note that I have not responded to s6(1).

Regards

DPC Communications

From: no-reply@forms.sa.gov.au <no-reply@forms.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 October 2019 10:06 AM
To: DPC:Communications <DPCCommunications@sa.gov.au>
Subject: General enquiry via DPC website #7658200



Submission details	
Given name	s6(1)
Family name	s6(1)

Email	is6(1)
Phone	0s6(1)
Message	is6(1) out of scope I have attached a document FYI and would like an explanation on why this is going on.
If required, attach supporting documentation.	Steven Marshal toll Roads.docx

Sunday, 8 September 2019

To Steven Marshal,

I refer to the item in today's Sunday mail on page 1, page 8 and page 9, about privatising public infrastructure & toll roads.

Now you want to sell off public infrastructure to the rich and greedy private sector to make massive profits and charge the general public

Let me remind you that all South Australia's infrastructure was built using the money hard working South Australians earned their wages and paid in taxes, these were collected by the federal government and then distributed to the states.

out of scope
[Redacted]

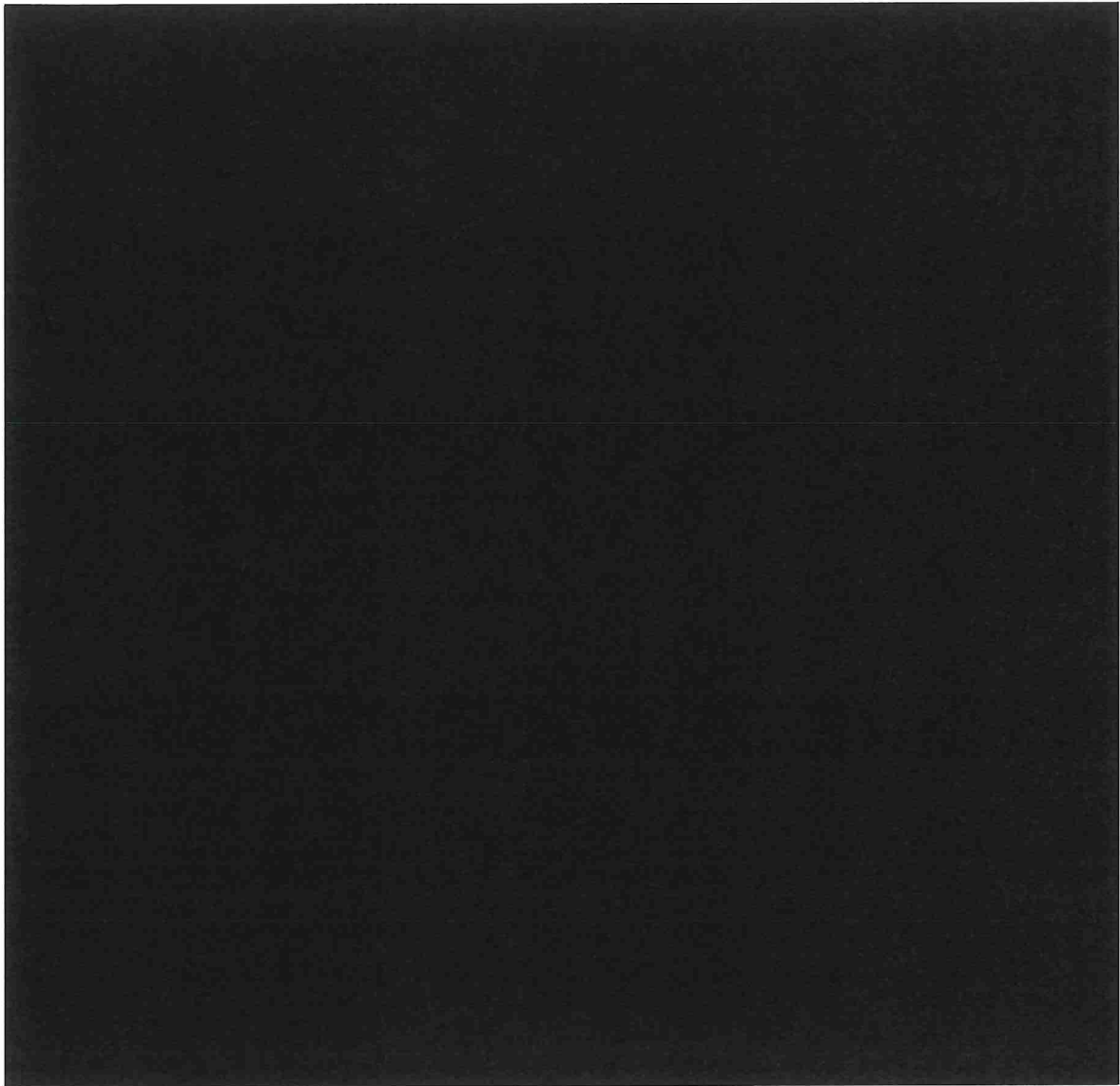
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I would appreciate a reply from you on this matter.

s6(1)

19MT13867
B442600



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Stephan Knoll MP
Member for Schubert

s6(1)
[Redacted]

Dear s6(1)

Thank you for your correspondence to the Premier, the Hon Steven Marshall MP, regarding privatisation, [Redacted] out of scope [Redacted] and road tolls. As these matters fall within my portfolio responsibilities, the Premier has asked me to thank you for your correspondence and respond on his behalf.

The article in the Sunday Mail regarding toll roads and privatisation relates to Infrastructure SA, an independent body that will combine the expertise of the private and public sectors to develop a 20-year state infrastructure strategy and 5-year infrastructure plans.

Infrastructure SA will ensure better planning and more transparent decision-making for critical public infrastructure projects for the State.

Whilst I note the article states "the Australian Government supports the use of private financing mechanisms, including toll roads," please be assured there are no plans for the introduction of road tolls to South Australia.

[Redacted] out of scope [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Thank you for raising these matters with me, I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

HON STEPHAN KNOLL MP
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MINISTER FOR PLANNING

8/11/2019

Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government
Minister for Planning
Roma Mitchell House Adelaide SA 5000 | GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001 DX 171
Tel 08 7109 8430 | Email minister:knoll@sa.gov.au

