OFFICIAL

Hon Geoff Brock MP



23MINFOI-0061

Mr Adrian Pederick MP Member for Hammond 20 Mannum Road MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253 hammond@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Pederick

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION – REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the FOI Act) received by this agency on 1 November 2023.

You have requested access to the following:

"For the period 1 January 2023 to 31 October 2023, any correspondence the Minister for Regional Roads has received in relation to the Strzelecki Track Upgrade and Sealing Project"

There are ten (10) documents that falls within the scope of your application and are those listed in the attached document schedule.

I have determined to release Document 09 in full and partially release Documents 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08 and 10 under section 20(1)(a); and clauses 6(1) and 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 of the Act which states:

20—Refusal of access

- (1) An agency may refuse access to a document—
 - (a) if it is an exempt document;...

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).



7—Documents affecting business affairs

- (1) A document is an exempt document—
 - (c) if it contains matter—
 - (i) consisting of information (other than trade secrets or information referred to in paragraph (b)) concerning the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of any agency or any other person; and
 - (ii) the disclosure of which-
 - (A) could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on those affairs or to prejudice the future supply of such information to the Government or to an agency; and
 - (B) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Clause 6(1)

Documents 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08 and 10 contain information that I consider to be the personal affairs of an individual, the release of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of their personal affairs. I therefore determine the information to be exempt from disclosure under clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

Clause 7(1)(c)

Documents 01, 02 and 04 contains information which relates to the business affairs of third parties and its disclosure could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on those affairs, be that through affecting contractual negotiations, tenders, competition for funding or future consultations. I have therefore refused access to these documents under clause 7(1)(c) of the Schedule 1 of the Act.

In considering the grounds of exemption for Clause 7(1)(c), I am required to consider the public interest for and against the release of information.

Factors in favour of release include:

- The public interest in fulfilling the objects of the FOI Act, and promoting openness and accountability within government.
- The public interest in ensuring that public infrastructure needs are being met in the long term.
- The public interest in scrutiny of government decision-making.

Factors against release:

- The protection of third party companies and how they carry out their business functions.
- The disclosure of information otherwise not publicly available.
- The extent to which premature disclosure may reveal sensitive information that may be misunderstood or misapplied by stakeholders – to the detriment of future projects.

Upon weighing these factors, I consider that the public interest is balanced against release of the redacted information.

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If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to apply for an internal review in accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act. To make an internal review application, you can write a letter or send the attached form entitled *Application for Review of Determination* to the Principal Officer of this agency, the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Regional Roads and Minister for Veterans Affairs, the Hon Geoff Brock MP.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, if you are given access to documents as a result of this FOI application, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, may be published in the agency's disclosure log. Any private information will be removed. A copy of PC045 can be found at www.dpc.sa.gov.au/resources-and-publications/premier-and-cabinet-circulars. If you have any objection to this publication, please contact us within 30 days.

Should you require any further information please contact me on telephone (08) 7133 1200.

Yours sincerely

Enza Pullino

Accredited FOI Officer

Office Manager to the

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MINISTER FOR REGIONAL ROADS

MINISTER FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

/ 2/2023

enc

Application for Review of Determination form Document schedule



FOI FACT SHEET

Your Rights to Review and Appeal

South Australian Freedom of Information Act 1991

Please read the information in this fact sheet before completing the attached application form

INTERNAL REVIEW

If you are unhappy with a determination made by an agency (includes South Australian State Government Agency, Local Government Council or University) under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act) in relation to:

- a freedom of information (FOI) application for access to a document, or
- an FOI application for amendment to your personal records

in most cases, you are entitled to apply for an Internal Review of that determination.

Request an Internal Review

An Internal Review must be lodged within 30 calendar days of you receiving advice of a determination that you are unhappy with.

Applications must be made in writing in accordance with Section 29 or Section 38 of the FOI Act or using the attached *FOI Application Form for Internal Review of a Determination* (Internal Review Form).

An Internal Review application must be made to the Principal Officer of the agency that made the determination you are seeking to have reviewed.

How much does an Internal Review cost?

There is an application fee of \$39.00 that must be paid when you lodge your Internal Review application if your review request is for access to documents.

There is no application fee for an Internal Review of an FOI application for amendment to your personal records.

Agencies generally accept payment by cash, money order or cheque. If you would like to pay by credit card you will need to ask the agency if they are able to accept credit card payments.

If, as a result of an Internal Review an agency changes or reverses a determination so that access to a document is, or will be, given, the agency will refund the Internal Review application fee paid by the applicant, where applicable.

What if I have a concession card or can't afford to pay?

If you are the holder of a current concession card or if you can satisfy the agency that the payment of the application fee would cause financial hardship, the agency must waive or remit (reduce or refund) it.

If you are a concession cardholder you will need to provide evidence e.g. attach a copy of your concession card when you make the application. Alternatively, you will need to give written reasons as to why the payment of a fee would cause you financial hardship.

How long does an Internal Review take?

You will be advised of the outcome of your Internal Review application within 14 calendar days of it being received by the agency.

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

01/07/2022 Page 1 of 4

by the Ombudsman SA. Alternatively, you may apply for a review by the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT). See the External Review section below.

When can't I apply for an Internal Review?

If the original application determination was made by the Principal Officer of an agency rather than another accredited FOI Officer within the agency, you cannot apply for an Internal Review. However, you can apply for an External Review by the Ombudsman SA or apply for a review by SACAT.

EXTERNAL REVIEW

After an Internal Review has been completed, or where you are unable to apply for an Internal Review, and you are unhappy with the determination, you have the right to apply for an External Review. All applications for External Review should be made to the Ombudsman SA.

How long will an External Review take and how much will it cost?

If you wish to make an application for an External Review you must do so within 30 calendar days after being notified of the determination. However, the Ombudsman SA can extend this time limit at their discretion. There is no fee or charge for External Reviews undertaken by the Ombudsman.

Contact Details:

Ombudsman SA Phone: 8226 8699

Toll Free: 1800 182 150 (outside metro SA) **Email**: ombudsman@ombudsman.sa.gov.au

REVIEW BY SACAT

You have a right to apply for a review by SACAT if you are unhappy with:

- a determination not subject to Internal Review
- an Internal Review determination, or
- the outcome of a review by the Ombudsman SA.

You must exercise your right of review with SACAT within 30 calendar days after being advised of the above types of determinations or the results of a review.

Any costs will be determined by SACAT, where applicable.

For more information contact SACAT.

Contact Details:

South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT)

Phone: 1800 723 767

Email: sacat@sacat.sa.gov.au

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FOI APPLICATION FORM

For Internal Review of a Determination

Under sections 29 & 38 of the South Australian Freedom of Information Act 1991

Please read the attached 'FOI Fact Sheet – Your Rights to Review and Appeal' before completing and lodging your Internal Review application

To the Principal Officer						
Name of the Agency:						
Details of Applicant						
Surname:						
Given Names:						
Australian Postal Address:						
Suburb: Post Code:						
Emails (Optional):						
Contact phone numbers:						
FOI Application Reference Number (if known):						
Details of Internal Review						
I am not satisfied with a determination made by your agency and, therefore, seek a review because:						
(Please place a tick in the appropriate box)						
I have been refused access to a document						
I have been refused access to part of a document						
I have been refused a request to amend a personal document						
I have been given access to a document but access has been deferred						
I am a third party specified in the documents but have not been consulted about giving access to another person						
I have been consulted but disagree with the determination to release the documents						

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Comments			
Include any additional comments you wis determination (attach additional pages if it		red in the revi	ew of the
Fees and Charges			
An application fee of \$39.00 must be sub unless you are seeking to have the application fee waived, please attach evic attach a copy of your concession card or	ation fee waived lence supporting	l. If you are s g why it shou	seeking to have the ld be waived, e.g.
An application fee is not required for an l Application.	Internal Review	of an FOI Ar	mendment
In the following section please tick as app	propriate		
Is the application fee attached?	□ Yes	□ No	
Application Fee is in the form of (Do not send cash through the mail)	☐ Cheque	□ Cash	☐ Money Order
Do you require a fee waiver?	□ Yes	□ No	
Is evidence of the need to waive fees attached? (e.g. a copy of your concession card)	□ Yes	□ No	
If you wish to pay your application fee you are applying to if they accept credit			to ask the agency
If no application fee is attached and you process your application until the fee ha		for fee waive	er, the agency cannot
If the agency varies or reverses a determ be, given the agency will refund any Int			
Applicant's Signature:			
Date/ 20			
OFFICE USE ONLY			
Received on / 20			
Acknowledgment sent on// 2	0		

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DOCUMENT SCHEDULE - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION NUMBER 23MINFOI-0061

Document Number	Description of Document	Date of Document	Author	Determination Release/Refuse Access	Schedule Clause Applied
01	Email	10 January 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs Clause 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 – Business affairs
02	Email	10 January 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs Clause 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 – Business affairs
03	Email	8 March 2023	Office of the Member for Grey	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
04	Email	29 March 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs Clause 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 – Business affairs
05	Email	3 May 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
06	Email	10 May 2023	Office of the Member for Grey	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
07	Email	21 June 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
08	Email	11 July 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
09	Email	26 September 2023	Member for Hammond	Full Release	
10	Letter	31 October 2023	Office of the Member for Stuart	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs

 From:
 Bauer, Toni

 To:
 DIT:Minister Brock

 Cc:
 Brock, Geoff

Subject: 22MINV-0497 FW: Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c) Contract Strezlecki Track

Date: Tuesday, 10 January 2023 10:17:51 AM

Good morning

Please be advised that be advised to the advised

would like to speak with Geoff as MP, as well as also discussing the Strezlecki Track works.

As per email below below has been directed to contact the Minister's Office.

As a courtesy could we please contact

Cheers Toni

Kindest Regards

Toni Bauer
Assistant to
Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 **T**: (08) 8633 1210 **PORT AUGUSTA** | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta **T**: (08) 8642 3633 **E**: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | **W**: www.geoffbrock.com.au |

FB: Geoff Brock MP | IG: geoffbrockmp

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From: Stuart EO <Stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 9 January 2023 11:16 AM **To:** Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Cc: Brock, Geoff.Geoff.Brock@parliament.sa.gov.au>; Chapman, Jenni

<Jenni.Chapman@parliament.sa.gov.au>; Bauer, Toni <Toni.Bauer@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Subject: Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c) Contract Strezlecki Track

Thank you for your enquiry this morning into the Port Augusta Electorate Office, requesting appointment with Minister Hon Geoff Brock re some ongoing concerns with contracts on Strezlecki Track.

All further requests regarding your initial enquiry 15th December 2022, should now be directed to the Minister's Office as detailed below:-

Minster for Regional Roads Hon Geoff Brock MP GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5000

Email: Minister.Brock@sa.gov.au

Ph: 7133 1200

Kindest regards

Eileen Lindner
Assistant to
Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 **T**: (08) 8633 1210 **PORT AUGUSTA** | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta **T**: (08) 8642 3633 **E**: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | **W**: www.geoffbrock.com.au |

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From: admin

To: <u>DIT:Minister Brock; geoff.brock@parliament.sa.gov.au</u>

Cc: jenni.chapman@parliament.sa.gov.au; toni.bauer@parliament.sa.gov.au

Subject: 22MINV-0497 Outback Road contracts - Strez Track

Date: Tuesday, 10 January 2023 10:30:51 AM

You don't often get email from admin@hawkerearthmovers.com.au. Learn why this is important

ATTN Hon Geoff Brock,

We would like to arrange a meeting with you as soon as possible regarding outback road contracts.

Some of the issues which need to be discussed as per our original request via phone call to Secretary Toni (on 15/12/22) relating to the below contract:



Attendees to attend meeting:

Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Brian Roach - DTI

Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

We look forward to your reply at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards



Regards

Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Depot - Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Postal - Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(t)

Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)
Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)
Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Email: Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)
Web: Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c)

Go GREEN, please consider the environment before you print this screen

From: Duffield, Fiona (R. Ramsey, MP)

To: **DIT:Minister Brock** Subject: Constituent Complaint

Date: Wednesday, 8 March 2023 3:03:42 PM

Attachments: image001.png

Good afternoon,

Mr Ramsey has been contacted by Clause 6(1) resident;



 $\mathsf{Clause}\ \mathsf{6(1)}$ complaint relates to the current road conditions along the Strzelecki Track. $\mathsf{Clause}\ \mathsf{6(1)}$ reported deep corrugations, numerous large and dangerous potholes as well as debris strewn along the surface. As a frequent traveller along the Strzelecki Track, a has deep concerns regarding the motorists safety.

Clause 6(1) has been provided with the appropriate contact number to report immediate road hazards directly to Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

In addition, Clause 6(1) requested that his complaint and contact details be provided to Minister Brock for his attention and response.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warm regards

Fiona Duffield | Electorate Officer Port Pirie (Tues & Wed)

Office of Rowan Ramsey MP

Federal Member for Grey

Electorate Office:

A: 104 Ellen Street PORT PIRIE SA 5540 P: (08) 86331744 | F: (08) 86331749

Parliament House:

Suite RG 95, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600

P: (02) 6277 4967 | F: (02) 6277 8440 E: Fiona.Duffield@aph.gov.au



From: Bauer, Toni
To: Brock, Geoff

Cc: <u>DIT:Minister Brock; Chapman, Jenni</u>

Subject: 23MINRR-0076 Strezlecki Track Enquiry

Date: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 12:20:44 PM

Good morning

I have received an enquiry from who is the business advisor for who are contracting to Clause 6(1), Clause 7(1)(c) on the Strezlecki Track contract with DIT.

There are rumours suggesting the job is going to be shut down and the contractors are finishing off current works.

The contractors are looking for clarification as to the status of works and would like to be advised as to what DIT's plans are for future works.

contractors are unable to advise their sub-contractors as to the state of play and therefore the sub-contractor is demobilising with no further advice.

I advised that this is a Ministerial query and I would forward it on to the Minister's office.

Kindest Regards

Toni Bauer
Assistant to
Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 T: (08) 8633 1210
PORT AUGUSTA | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta T: (08) 8642 3633
E: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | W: www.geoffbrock.com.au |
FB: Geoff Brock MP | IG: geoffbrockmp

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From: Bauer, Toni

To: <u>DIT:Minister Brock, Geoff</u>

Cc: Chapman, Jenni

Subject: 23MINRR-0114 Clause 6(1) RE: Strezlecki Track Clause 6(1)

Date: Wednesday, 3 May 2023 9:22:00 AM

Good morning

Clause 6(1) owns the Clause 6(1) has contacted to advise that went for a drive up to the dog fence on the Strezlecki track yesterday – 75km of the bitumen road.

said that it is shocking – The cattle grid on the way out of Lyndhurst, going up the track, is going to kill someone believes. Particularly dangerous if they are riding a motorbike.

has stated that the road is a disgrace- potholes and wash aways everywhere.

plans on ringing the Advertiser to get them to do a story on the money spent to put bitumen down and it was probably better as a dirt track.

Cheers Toni

Kindest Regards

Toni Bauer
Assistant to
Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 **T**: (08) 8633 1210 **PORT AUGUSTA** | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta **T**: (08) 8642 3633 **E**: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | **W**: www.geoffbrock.com.au |

FB: Geoff Brock MP | IG: geoffbrockmp

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From: Duffield, Fiona (R. Ramsey, MP)

To: **DIT:Minister Brock**

Subject: 23MINRR-0126 Constituent concern-Strzelecki Track

Date: Wednesday, 10 May 2023 1:05:22 PM

Attachments: image001.png

Good afternoon.

Please find highlighted below, concerns raised by Grey constituent;

I have spoken with to discuss concerns in addition to providing contact details to access the Department of Infrastructure road hazards and complaints service. initial correspondence be provided to Minister Brock for attention and response.

"....Hi, I am contacting you on behalf of many of the people who live or work on the Strezlecki Track. They would like to highlight the dangerous condition the road is now in. My Clause 6(1) also drives on this road every fortnight to Moomba and return and has commented its the worst has ever seen it, and been driving on it for 30 + years. They would like to invite you to take a trip via one of their vehicles, either by truck or by a work vehicle just so you can experience it first hand. Apparently the there is no longer a maintenance crew that do the basic grade?? Hoping you accept the offer, and waiting in good faith for a reply.

Regards

Kind regards

Fiona Duffield | Electorate Officer Port Pirie (Tues & Wed)

Office of Rowan Ramsev MP

Federal Member for Grey

Electorate Office:

A: 104 Ellen Street PORT PIRIE SA 5540 P: (08) 86331744 | F: (08) 86331749

Parliament House:

Suite RG 95, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600

P: (02) 6277 4967 | F: (02) 6277 8440 E: Fiona.Duffield@aph.gov.au



From: Stuart FO
To: DIT:Minister Brock

Subject: 23MINRR-0165 FW: STRZELECKI TRACK
Date: Wednesday, 21 June 2023 9:46:16 AM

Good morning

Forwarding as FYI, it is both Ministerial and Member related so have also printed for Geoff to see when he is back in the EO.

Kindest regards
Jenni Chapman
Office Manager
Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 **T**: (08) 8633 1210 **PORT AUGUSTA** | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta **T**: (08) 8642 3633 **E**: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | **W**: www.geoffbrock.com.au |

FB: Geoff Brock MP | IG: geoffbrockmp

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From: Clause 6(1) < Clause 6(1) >

Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:07 PM

To: Stuart EO <Stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au>

Cc: Clause 6(1) < Clause 6(1) >

Subject: STRZELECKI TRACK

Att Geoff Brock Member for Stuart

Dear Mr Brock,

I have recently driven the Strzelecki with a group of friends.

We were all astounded to find that the new bitumen sealing is already broken down extensively due to poor preparation of the base, are you aware of this and are you prepared to offer a comment?

Regards

Clause 6(1) Clause 6(1)

Document 08

From: Bauer, Toni
To: DIT:Minister Brock

Cc:Brock, Geoff; Chapman, JenniSubject:23MINRR-0114 Strezlecki TrackDate:Tuesday, 11 July 2023 11:02:34 AM

Good morning

I am forwarding this on to the MO for your information. If there is anything you would like me to do please advise.

Clause 6(1) from the Clause 6(1) called this morning to complain about the condition of the Strezlecki Track.

said there are some extremely large, deep potholes in the track that are very dangerous. Recently a car and a truck have suffered severe damage due to hitting the pothole. One particular pothole is 800mm round and 25 mm deep. States that there does not seem to be a maintenance program to do repairs.

regarding the condition of the road.

phone number $\overline{\text{Clause } 6(1)}$ if you would like to discuss.

Cheers

Toni

Kindest Regards

Toni Bauer

Assistant to

Hon Geoff Brock MP

Member for Stuart

PORT PIRIE | Shop C, Ellen Centre, Port Pirie | GPO Box 519 Port Pirie SA 5540 **T**: (08) 8633 1210 **PORT AUGUSTA** | Port Augusta Business Centre, 2a Stirling Road Port Augusta **T**: (08) 8642 3633 **E**: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au | **W**: www.geoffbrock.com.au |

FB: Geoff Brock MP | IG: geoffbrockmp

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REF: 7389214KK Please quote REF No Document 09

Hon Geoff Brock MP
Minister for Regional Roads
Government of South Australia
GPO Box 1533
ADELAIDE SA 5001

E: Minister.Brock@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

I write to you to request an update on the Strzelecki Track Upgrade and Sealing Project.

I have been informed that the wrong road base has been used for the sealing of the Strzelecki Track and as a result remediation work has been required to fix completed sections of the track. I understand the first 20kms of the Strzelecki Track from Lyndhurst is one section that required fixing at an additional cost of \$8 million.

I have further been informed that the future of the project could be at risk because contractors are reluctant to continue sealing the track until the appropriate road base has been supplied.

Can you advise what the Government is doing to address the road base issue to ensure that the Strzelecki Track Upgrade and Sealing Project is able to be completed. Can you also advise whether this project is still on budget.

I would welcome a meeting with you to get a full brief on this matter.

Your assistance in responding to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN PEDERICK MP JP

Member for Hammond

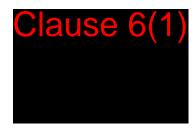
Shadow Minister for Veterans Affairs

Shadow Minister for Emergency Services

Shadow Minister for Regional Roads

26 19123

Building a positive future for Hammond



P: Clause 6(1)

M: Clause 6(1)

E: Clause 6(1)

Document 10

30/10/2023
Hon Geoff Brock (MP)
PO Box 519
Port Pirie SA 5540
stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Geoff,

As the minister for regional roads and the member for Stuart I am seeking your assistance to address the appalling conditions of the state's outback roads.

I have been traveling theses roads for 23 years, 15 years as a Heavy Vehicle operator.

As a small business operator, I am contracted to deliver Goods to outback towns, mine sites, pastoral stations and Indigenous communities, from Pipalyatjara in the Anangu Pitjantjara lands to the Birdsville and Strzelecki tracks.

No one expects dirt roads to be perfect, But the current conditions of these roads are abysmal. This is affecting regional businesses.

It used to be that you could rely on averaging 50km per hour on dirt roads. Now trucks are traveling at 25-30km per hour, doubling the length of time needed to complete the same trip. This is leading to substantial and sustained loss of productive hours due to the unsatisfactory conditions of our roads.

A small family businesses like mine, Can not continue to remain viable if our roads can not be, at least brought back to the condition that they once were.

Strzelecki track:

- 160km from Montecollina bore to Yeralina Creek appalling condition(one 10km stretch of this road took one hour drive time from Montecollina to Art Baker Lookout)
- Strzelecki track both sealed sections have major issues and waiting for repair
- No permeant road crew Graders? (There used to be three patrols all years round, Cooper Creek patrol, Collins patrol and Leigh Creek patrol.)

APY Lands

- 300km Umuwa to Pipalyatjara 90% of which is well below it historical standard

Oodnadatta Track

- 600km Oodnadatta Track-, 90% of which is well below it historical standard
- Where is the wet maintance crew?
- Patrol Dry grading is proving to be inadequate to maintain these roads

From the data I have read, The Far north of South Australia produces around \$160,250 Per person of GDP for the state, so why can't we have roads to enable reliable and cost competive production of this GDP.

The condition of our roads will push more companies to have their fright delivered via other States roads (and their Transport operators) where ever possible, to void time delays and above average potential to damage fright due to S.A. Road conditions.

South Australia's 20-Year State Infrastructure Strategy Discussion Paper October 2023 states: "A more competitive freight network may encourage companies to locate in, or increase the production of goods, in South Australia. In turn, increased exports will help support our economic growth and increase employment opportunities"

From the above statement one can assume that we all know it's important, unfortunately the current budget?/policies?/management?/whatever is going on? is doing the exact opposite of economic growth and increased employment opportunities.

I, myself have contemplated starting over in another state as I endure hundreds of kilometres of severely corrugated and degraded roads each week.

If you would like to travel these roads, I can offer you the passinger seat of a Kenworth Prime mover to gain a first hand insight to the issue.

Mr Brock, I sincerely thank you for your time, and ask that you please address the dismal state of our roads.

Kind Regards,

