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Receipt No: 16734998



Government
of South Australia
The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

The Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC
Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Ms Centofanti

Determination under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* received by the Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on 21 September 2022 requesting access to the following:

“A copy of all correspondence between the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Treasurer, relating to exotic animal diseases, including but not limited to foot and mouth disease, lumpy skin disease, varroa mite, fruit fly.”

Timeframe: 21/03/2022 to 11/10/2022

Accordingly, the following determination has been finalised.

I have located one document that is captured within the scope of your request.

Determination

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
1	Minute to Treasurer dated 19 April 2022	4

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“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

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

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- 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”*

The information removed consists of detail which is considered as commercial-in-confidence.

In addressing the public interest test requirement for this exemption, I have balanced the following factors:

In favour of the public interest:

- Meeting the objects of the Act favouring access to documents.
- Ensuring optimal use of public resources.
- High level of interest in the accountability of public office holders.
- The importance of transparency and openness and the interest that the public has in the decision-making processes of Government.

Contrary to the public interest:

- Protecting the commercial and business interests of third parties and associated processes.
- The recent age of the information and the ongoing relevance of the matters were considered.
- If third parties cannot be assured of confidentiality by Government with respect to their commercially sensitive information, this would have the potential to harm business relationships with Government and hamper future dealings with Government for the betterment of South Australia.
- Disclosure of this information would be expected to prejudice the future supply of information to Government, as the level of trust in handling such information would be substantially diminished.

Having considered the various factors weighing for and against disclosure, I have determined that disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

The remaining information removed is outside of the scope of your application.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to exercise your rights of external review with the Ombudsman SA. Alternatively, you can apply to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT). If you wish to seek a review, you must do so within 30 calendar days of receiving this internal review determination.

For more information about seeking a review or appeal, please contact the Ombudsman SA on telephone (08) 8226 8699 or SACAT on 1800 723 767.

Should you require further information or clarification with respect to this matter, please contact Ms Cindy Roberts on 8226 2931 or email: Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

21 / 11 / 2022



Government of South Australia

MINUTE *forming* ENCLOSURE to eA196965

TO: TREASURER

SUBJECT: Out of scope
 Out of scope

Background

Out of scope

Fruit Fly Free Status

- A key market advantage for South Australian horticulture is the state's fruit fly free status. Being fruit fly free provides SA horticulture industries with the ability to trade more freely between states. In addition, the Riverland Pest Free Area (PFA) provides economic benefit for exporters through improved international market access and premium prices.

Out of scope



- SA's fruit fly free status is maintained through an ongoing program. These costs are more than \$5 million annually. In addition, during an outbreak, additional costs are incurred to eradicate flies and maintain fruit fly free status.
- Over the past two-years, South Australia has been combatting multiple outbreaks of fruit fly. The SA Government has invested unprecedented funds to eradicate outbreaks with over \$70 million invested in the fruit fly response program since December 2019. As a result of those efforts, eleven outbreaks of Mediterranean fruit fly across Metropolitan Adelaide one outbreak at Port Augusta and three outbreaks in the Riverland PFA of Queensland fruit fly have now been eradicated.

Out of scope

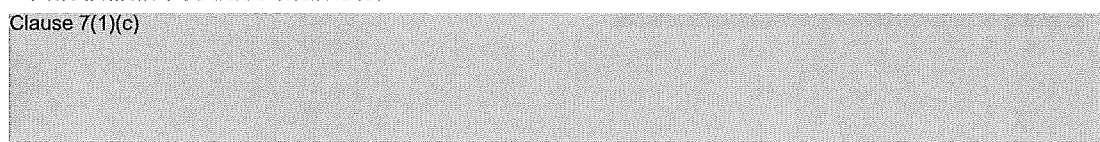


Discussion

Biosecurity

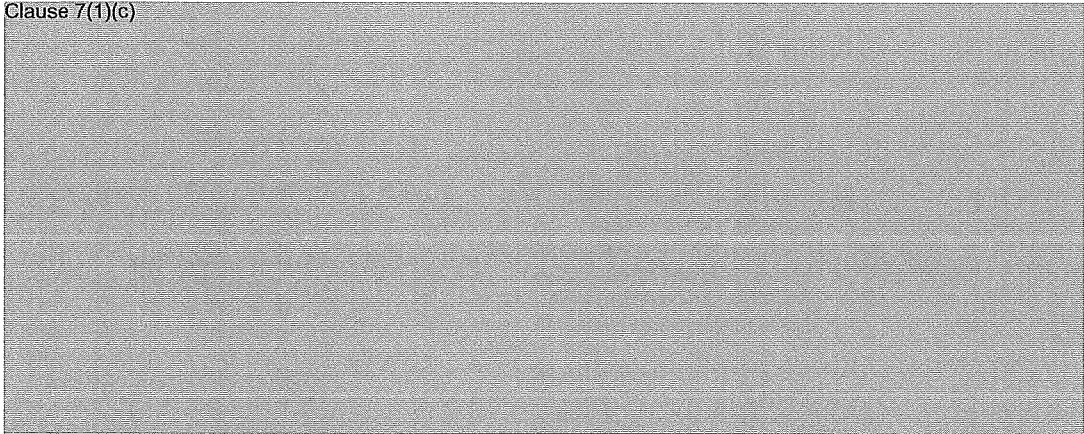
- In December 2021, the Federal Government announced \$30 million over three years to build resilience to manage Fruit Fly. The package provides for:
 - the construction of critical post-harvest treatment infrastructure nationally to grow exports.
 - essential upgrades to quarantine entry-points into South Australia to stop the spread of fruit fly
 - consolidation and expansion of sterile insect technology capability to drive down pest pressure in vulnerable areas
- South Australia is the intended beneficiary of a significant portion of this funding (expected to be \$20 million over 3 years) due to the state's strategic role in Australia market access protocols.
- Of the investment, around \$15 million is expected to be provided for the construction of critical post-harvest treatment infrastructure in South Australia. It will a competitive process to be undertaken to ensure that projects represent value for money and are in the national interest. It is of particular interest to the South Australian Produce Markets.

Clause 7(1)(c)

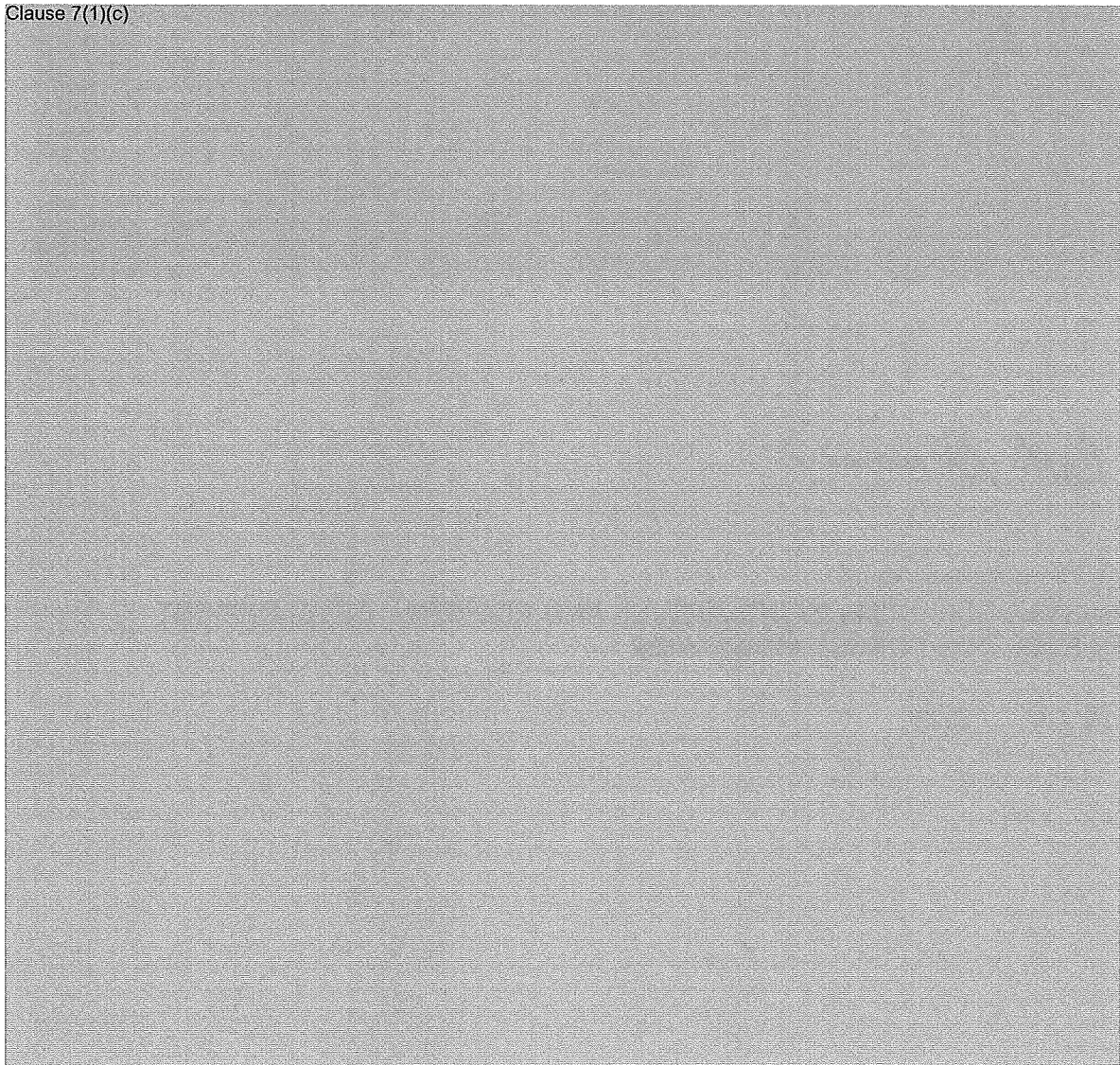


- In 2019, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions provided \$10,000 in funding to HCSA to develop a business case for a treatment facility in South Australia to assist industry to meet international export protocols. The study demonstrated that an irradiation facility in South Australia is a commercially viable project, although the primary users of a facility appear to be outside of the fresh produce sector.

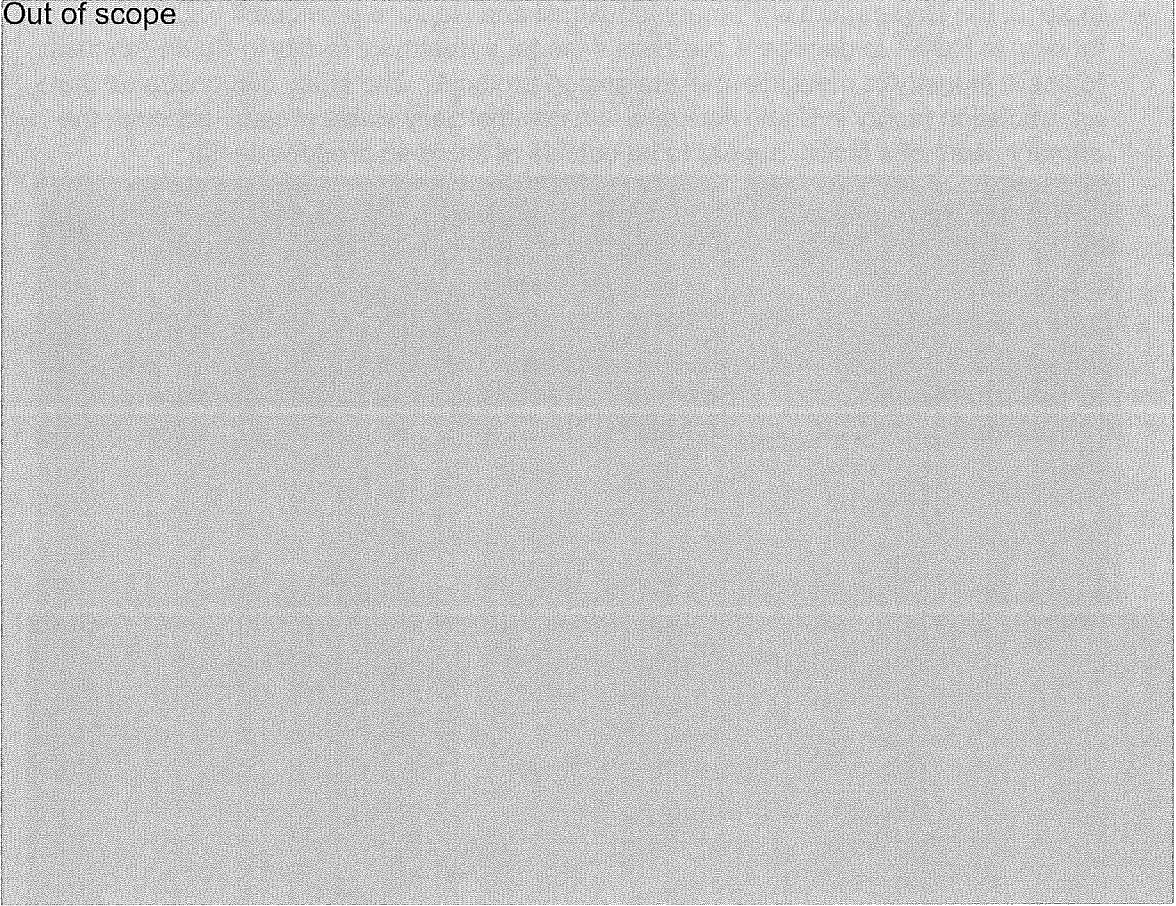
Clause 7(1)(c)



Clause 7(1)(c)



Out of scope



Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

19 / 4 / 2022