



**Government  
of South Australia**

**Office of the Minister for  
Environment and Water**

81-95 Waymouth Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1047  
Adelaide SA 5001

Tel 08 8463 5680  
minister.speirs@sa.gov.au

Hon Kyam Maher MLC  
Parliament House  
North Terrace  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Mr Maher

I refer to your application pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act) received by the Office of the Minister for Environment and Water, on 17 July 2019, seeking access to:

Copies of any and all documents (including but not limited to physical, electronic, or handwritten correspondence, letters, emails, briefs, minutes, diary entries and any other correspondence) between the Minister and/or Minister's Office staff and Mr James Stevens and/or the Liberal for Sturt campaign.

**DETERMINATION**

Searches of documents held by the Office of the Minister for Environment and Water have found one (1) document within scope of your request.

As the Accredited FOI Officer, I have determined to grant you full access to this document.

**DISCLOSURE LOG**

In accordance with [PC045 – Disclosure logs for Non-personal information](#) once a determination has been provided, the Office is required to make information and documents that have been disclosed available on the Department for Environment and Water website. Information will be publicised online at <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/about-us/freedom-of-information/foi-disclosure-log/minister-disclosure-log>.

**FEES AND CHARGES**

There is no charge for processing this application.

**YOUR APPEAL RIGHTS**

If you are dissatisfied with this determination, you are entitled to exercise your rights to internal review and appeal as outlined in the attached documentation, by completing the attached Application for Review of Determination.

If you decide to apply to exercise your rights to review, the completed form must be returned within 30 days to:

Principal FOI Officer  
Office for the Minister for Environment and Water  
PO Box 1047  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

If you have any queries in relation to the above please contact me on telephone (08) 8463 5680 or email [Minister.Speirs@sa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Speirs@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**Carly McNeill**  
**ACCREDITED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**  
Office of the Minister for Environment and Water

9 October 2019

Encl: Document schedule  
Release documents

**Freedom of Information  
DOCUMENT SCHEDULE**

Reference No: 19EW0005919

**Office of the Minister for Environment and Water**

Request for all documents (all forms) between the Minister and/or Minister's Office staff and Mr James Stevens and/or the Liberal for Sturt campaign – received 17/7/2019

Doc No	Brief Description	Date of Doc	Full Access	Part Access or Refused Access	Other
1	Email from James Flint-Resignation	3 March 2019	Full access		
1a	Attachment: Resignation letter (publically available)		Full access		

Notes:

1. Schedule should not include information that would make it an exempt document eg exempt personal information or other exempt data
2. Documents should be clearly numbered

**Bailey, Cullen (DEW)**

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**From:** Stevens, James (DPC)  
**Sent:** Sunday, 3 March, 2019 10:50 AM  
**To:** Carney, Jodeen (AGD); De Gennaro, Gino (DTF); Bauer, Cheryl (Education); Kompo-Harms, Scott (DTTI); Hancock, Janette (DHS); Goddard, Garry (DIS); Murphy, James (Health); Kelly, Dominic (DEM); Pratt, Penny (DCP); Price, Simon (PIRSA); Mallinson, Larissa (AGD); Bailey, Cullen (DEW); Taylor, Sarah (DPTI)  
**Cc:** Morcombe, Courtney (DPC); May, Alexandra (DPC)  
**Subject:** Chief of Staff - Resignation  
**Attachments:** Resignation Letter.jpg

**For Official Use Only**

Dear Chiefs of Staff,

I write to inform you that this morning I have tendered my resignation (attached) to the Premier as his Chief of Staff, effective immediately.

Given yesterday's announcement by Christopher Pyne that he will not contest the next federal election, and the decision of the State Executive to open nominations for preselection, I have made the decision to contest. It would be negligent of me and against the best interests of the government for me to continue in my current role having now made that decision. This role must always be held by a person exclusively focussed on serving the Premier and the Cabinet, and I believe that has been my conduct throughout my time in this role.

The Premier has asked me to inform you that he has appointed Courtney Morcombe as my replacement as Chief of Staff. She will do an unbelievable job and I feel enormously proud and relieved to be handing over my responsibilities to someone so capable.

I have cherished my time as part of this team since the beginning of 2013. Our election victory last year will remain the highlight of my political involvement to date. It was undoubtedly one of the great victories in Liberal Party history, given the phenomenal and unique dynamic we faced to not only defeat an entrenched, entitled government, but with the added complexity of a completely bizarre additional political force that left every flank under attack and no seat as an assured outcome.

I have served with great pride in this government. I am sad to be leaving it. I wish you all the greatest of success in what will clearly be a long and exciting Liberal Party reign, delivering great reforms and outcomes for the people of South Australia.

Vale.

James

**James Stevens**  
Chief of Staff  
Premier of South Australia



**Office of the Premier  
of South Australia**

Level 15, State Administration Centre, 200 Victoria Square, Adelaide SA 5000  
**M:** 0412 833 898  
**E:** [james.stevens@sa.gov.au](mailto:james.stevens@sa.gov.au) | **W:** [www.premier.sa.gov.au](http://www.premier.sa.gov.au)

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14 March 2019

Hon Steven Marshall MP  
Premier of South Australia  
State Administration Centre  
200 Victoria Square  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Premier,

I write, with a heavy heart, to tender my resignation as your Chief of Staff, effective immediately. It has been my greatest pleasure to serve in this role through the entirety of your leadership of the South Australian Liberal Party, more than six years now. The greatest highlight was of course last year's historic election victory. I will always cherish the role I had the privilege to play in this campaign.

Given yesterday's announcement by Christopher Pyne that he will not contest the next federal election, and the decision of the State Executive to open nominations for preselection, I have made the decision to contest. It would be negligent of me and against the best interests of your government for me to continue in my current role having now made that decision. This role must always be held by a person exclusively focussed on serving you, and I believe that has been my conduct throughout my time with you.

I remain absolutely dedicated to the interests of the Marshall Liberal Government. I could not imagine not continuing to play an appropriate role in ensuring the government's longevity, and despite what may or may not lay ahead for me in the coming months, I look forward to continuing my part in campaigning for the deserved re-election of your government in 2022.

Kind regards,

*James Stevens*

James Stevens  
Chief of Staff  
Premier of South Australia

10000 000 Box 204 Adelaide SA 5000  
08 844 401 22