



23MINFOI-0017

Hon Ben Hood MLC
Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000
benhood.office@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Hood

*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 12 May 2023.

You have requested access to the following:

For the period 20 March 2022 to 20 September 2022, all correspondence received from and sent to Erin Thompson, Member for Davenport

There are fifteen (15) documents that falls within the scope of your application and are those listed in the attached document schedule.

I have determined to release Documents 01a, 01b, 01c, 02a, 03a, 03c, 04a and 04b in full and partially release Documents 02b, 02c, 03b, 03d, 05a, 05b and 05c under section 20(1)(a), and clause 6(1) 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).*

Clause 6(1)

Documents 02b, 02c, 03b, 03d, 05a, 05b and 05c 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.

OFFICIAL

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

16 / 06 / 2023

enc Application for Review of Determination form
Document schedule

OFFICIAL

DOCUMENT SCHEDULE - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION NUMBER 23MINFOI-0017

Document Number	Description of Document	Date of Document	Author	Determination Release/Refuse Access	Schedule Clause Applied
01a	Email	6 April 2022	Office of Member for Davenport	Full Release	NIL
01b	Letter	5 April 2022	Member for Davenport	Full Release	NIL
01c	Email	12 April 2022	Minister Brock's Office	Full Release	NIL
02a	Email	29 April 2022	Office of Member for Davenport	Full Release	NIL
02b	Letter	28 April 2022	Member for Davenport	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
02c	Email attachment	Various	Various	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
03a	Email	19 May 2022	Office of Member for Davenport	Full Release	NIL
03b	Letter	19 May 2022	Member for Davenport	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
03c	Email	8 July 2022	Minister Brock's Office	Full Release	NIL
03d	Letter	7 July 2022	Minister Brock	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
04a	Email	5 July 2022	Minister Brock's Office	Full Release	NIL
04b	Letter	5 July 2022	Minister Brock	Full Release	NIL
05a	Email	21 July 2022	Office of Member for Davenport	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
05b	Letter	20 July 2022	Member for Davenport	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs
05c	Email	4 August 2022	Minister Brock's Office	Partial Release	Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 – Personal affairs

DIT:Minister Brock

From: Davenport EO <Davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 April 2022 4:19 PM
To: DIT:Minister Brock
Subject: 22MINLG-0039 - Correspondence from Erin Thompson MP
Attachments: LOC001.pdf

Categories: Local Government

Good Afternoon

Please see attached correspondence from Erin Thompson MP

Kind Regards

Jazz Ellis
Office Manager

Erin Thompson MP
State Member for Davenport
PO Box 1137
FLAGSTAFF HILL SA 5159
8270 5122

Shop 11-12a, The Hub Shopping Centre, Taylors Road Aberfoyle Park, 5159

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Erin
Thompson MP
State Member for DAVENPORT



Document 1b

Hon Geoffrey Brock MP
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Regional Roads
Minister for Veterans Affairs

Dear Minister Brock

Geoff

Congratulations on your election win and appointment as Minister for Local Government, Regional Roads and Veterans Affairs.

I look forward to working with you as part of the new Labor team.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you with your portfolio.

Yours sincerely

Erin Thompson

Erin Thompson MP
Member for Davenport

S April 2022

DIT:Minister Brock

From: DIT:Minister Brock
Sent: Tuesday, 12 April 2022 3:39 PM
To: Davenport EO
Subject: 22MINLG-0039 - Acknowledgement

Categories: Dinh

OFFICIAL

Dear Ms Thompson

On behalf of the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Geoff Brock MP, I acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated 5 April 2022, regarding your congratulatory letter to the Minister.

Your correspondence has been noted and will be brought to the attention of the Minister.

Kind regards

Enza Pullino
Office Manager

Office of the Hon Geoff Brock MP

Minister for Local Government | Minister for Veteran Affairs | Minister for Regional Roads

Level 10, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, South Australia 5000

GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5000 | DX 171



**Government of
South Australia**

DIT:Minister Brock

From: Davenport EO <Davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 29 April 2022 10:02 AM
To: DPC:Office of Minister Bettison; DIT:Minister Brock
Cc: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis
Subject: (22MINRR-0021) FW: Correspondence from Erin Thompson MP
Attachments: INFR002.pdf

Categories: Regional Roads

Good Morning Minister Bettison and Minister Brock

Erin has requested that this letter sent to Minister Koutsantonis also be forwarded to you as FYI it is relevant to Regional Roads and Tourism.

Kind Regards

Jazz Ellis

Office Manager



Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT
A fresh face to deliver for Davenport



8270 5122 | Shop 11, The Hub Shopping Centre, Taylors
Road Aberfoyle 5159 | PO Box 1137, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159

  [erinthompsondavenport](https://www.facebook.com/erinthompsonmp)

<https://www.facebook.com/erinthompsonmp>

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Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT



Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Energy and Mining
Leader of Government Business in the House of Assembly
GPO Box 1533
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Minister Koutsantonis

Tom

I have recently been contacted by the **Clause 6(1)** which is located on **Clause 6(1)**

Clause 6(1) will be opening their new **Clause 6(1)** **Clause 6(1)** ater this year and they have valid concerns that the speed limit on this country road is too high to provide safe entry and exit to their businesses.

Locals are excited to have these new tourism attractions in the region, however the roads can be unsafe when wet or at high speed with non-local drivers.

I have attached some previous correspondence with the **Clause 6(1)** and would appreciate your investigation into possibilities here.

I would be happy to meet with yourself or anyone from the department on site to explore options for a safer and more welcoming road between these two businesses.

Yours sincerely

Erin Thompson MP

Member for Davenport

28 April 2022



Davenport EO

From: Clause 6(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 20 April 2022 9:08 PM
To: Davenport EO
Subject: Speed reduction on Grants Gully Road
Attachments: RE: Discussion about speed reduction on Grants Gully Road at the State Budget Breakfast on Thursday, 15 July; Speed limits on Grants Gully Road adjacent Clause 6(1)
 Clause 6(1)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Erin,

Following up on our previous discussions regarding my appeal to reduce the speed limit on Grants Gully Road, Chandlers Hill from 80km/hr to 70km/hr. My concern is foremost for the safety of motorists, the residents around us have alerted me to the fact that Grants Gully Road has high rates of crashes on the road particularly at Piggot Range corner. My concern is also for the safety of patrons in attendance Clause 6(1) Clause 6(1) We are working to make Chandlers Hill a burgeoning wine area attracting intrastate and interstate tourists to boost investment and employment in the area. I can foresee this road as being an impediment to ours and Clause 6(1). For example, we want patrons to feel comfortable, and to remain safe, in freely crossing the road to use both facilities and enjoy all that the area has to offer.

I won't rehash the history of my appeal as you are already aware but I have attached the details obtained from Clause 6(1) pertaining to the road being under State Government control as well as some of the crash/collision data from 2016-2020. I have also attached the email from the State Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) who provided their determination before the election. I note that due to caretaker conventions a new Government is not bound to decisions or actions of the previous Government, particularly those decisions made during the caretaker period.

I have a letter drafted to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport but held off sending it during caretaker mode and then with the formation of the new government I note that a new portfolio has been created the 'Minister for Regional Roads'. With that in mind, I am not sure whether DIT is still the approving authority on behalf of the Commissioner of Highways to alter, change or amend road speed limits and thus now don't know who to write to.

Any advice you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Clause 6(1)

Davenport EO

From: Clause 6(1)
Sent: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 2:59 PM
To: Clause 6(1)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Discussion about speed reduction on Grants Gully Road at the State Budget Breakfast on Thursday, 15 July

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Clause 6(1)

Thank you for your follow up enquiry regarding traffic speed on Grants Gully Road at Chandlers Hill.

I am advised that the team has reviewed the site and analysed the road function, abutting roadside development, road and traffic characteristics which are all important factors in the setting of speed limits. They also looked at crash data for the period 2016-2020 records that there have been 9 collisions involving an injury on Grants Gully Road at, or within close proximity of, the intersection with Piggott Road. Another 3 collisions involving an injury have been recorded on Grants Gully Road, between Piggott Range Road and Clarendon Road, for the period 2016-2020.

As Grants Gully Road is an urban fringe road on the approach to Clarendon, where the road alignment consists of closely spaced curves, on 15 September 2021 we submitted an application to DIT to consider reducing the speed limit from 80km/h to 70km/h. In our submission to DIT, we highlighted that other roads in the vicinity are 70km/h and have brought to their attention the number of injury related crashes.

We have asked DIT to advise both Council and yourself at Clause 6(1) of the outcome. After recently following up with DIT on this issue, we were informed that one of their team members will contact you soon to discuss your concerns. Please advise us if you have not received contact within a reasonable timeframe and we will follow up accordingly.

Alternatively if you would like to contact DIT directly, we recommend speaking with Clause 6(1) his details are below.

Clause 6(1)

Department for Infrastructure and Transport

Clause 6(1)

GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5001 • DX 171 • dit.sa.gov.au

Hopefully this helps,

Regards

Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

From: Clause 6(1)

Sent: Thursday, 3 February 2022 4:46 PM

To: Clause 6(1)

Subject: RE: Discussion about speed reduction on Grants Gully Road at the State Budget Breakfast on Thursday, 15 July

Clause 6(1)

I hope you have been keeping well and are having a good start to the year.

Just a quick follow up email to source the results of the independent assessment that was conducted in September by the Clause 6(1). Are you happy to share the results?

The Clause 6(1) across the road has been delayed luckily so we haven't had any issues of customers crossing the road yet.

Warm regards,

Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

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From: Clause 6(1)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 July 2021 11:48 AM

To: Clause 6(1)

Subject: RE: Discussion about speed reduction on Grants Gully Road at the State Budget Breakfast on Thursday, 15 July

Clause 6(1)

I've got some information for you.

Grants Gully Road is under the care and control of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT). They are also the approving authority on behalf of the Commissioner of Highways to alter, change or amend road speed limits. Councils do not have the legislative powers to change speed limits, however we can advise DIT of the need to undertake a speed review and the reason or need for any speed amendments.

Clause 6(1) traffic team will undertake our own independent assessment of the location and review the comments previously provided as part of the Development Application. If that assessment highlights a safety concern we will write formally to DIT for their consideration on your behalf. Please note that as this road is not under Council's care and control, this assessment will be done without access to recent traffic data and will therefore be relatively subjective.

We anticipate this review being undertaken in September this year.

In the meantime, and given the as yet unknown result of our review, I suggest you contact DIT directly.

Please keep me in the loop on this.

Regards

Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

From: Clause 6(1)
Sent: Friday, 16 July 2021 8:55 AM
To: Clause 6(1)
Subject: Discussion about speed reduction on Grants Gully Road at the State Budget Breakfast on Thursday, 15 July

Clause 6(1)

Lovely to see you yesterday at the State Budget Breakfast held at Clause 6(1) with Clause 6(1)

As mentioned, Clause 6(1) Grants Gully Road is an 80km road and our cellar door is situated quite close to the road. We have heard horror stories from our neighbours regarding regular crashes on this road just next to the Cellar Door because people tend to speed in the area. I also regularly see police cameras set up on this road so I am sure they are aware of the speeding that occurs.

By the end of this year, Clause 6(1) is opening up across the road. We are very excited for them to join the area and for our close proximity to help grow visitation numbers to the Chandlers Hill/Clarendon area. However, as I mentioned I am worried Clause 6(1) this will encourage people to walk across the road to each of the establishments. Ideally, this flow of people to both places is great and exactly what we would like to occur however currently with the 80km/hr road between us I see this as a risk.

I am not sure whether it is a State Government or Local Government road but any advice or assistance the Clause 6(1) could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your time, Clause 6(1)

Kind regards,

Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

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Davenport EO

From: Clause 6(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 23 February 2022 2:06 PM
To: Clause 6(1)
Subject: Speed limits on Grants Gully Road Clause 6(1)
Clause 6(1)

OFFICIAL

Hello Clause 6(1)
Recently, you contacted Clause 6(1) regarding speed limits on Grants Gully Road adjacent Clause 6(1)
Clause 6(1)
Clause 6(1) passed your request to DIT for a review, as Grants Gully Road is an arterial road under the management of Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
Additionally, for consistency across the State, DIT is responsible for all speed management issues.

Please call me Clause 6(1) to discuss your concerns.

Regards
Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

Department for Infrastructure and Transport
Clause 6(1)
GPO Box 1555 Adelaide SA 5001 • DX 171 • <https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/>



collaboration . honesty . excellence . enjoyment . respect

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.
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DIT:Minister Brock

From: Davenport EO
Sent: Thursday, 19 May 2022 3:39 PM
To: DIT:Minister Brock
Subject: 22MINVA-0044 - Correspondence from Erin Thompson MP
Attachments: VET001 Shane Soutter.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find correspondence from Erin Thompson MP attached.

With thanks,
Will Longshaw
Electorate Assistant Davenport



Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT
A fresh face to deliver for Davenport



8270 5122 | PO Box 1137, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159 | Shop 11,
The Hub Shopping Centre, Taylors Road Aberfoyle Park 5159

  [erinthompsondavenport](#)

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Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT



Hon Geoff Brock MP
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Regional Roads
Minister for Veterans Affairs
GPO Box 1533
ADELAIDE, SA 5000

Dear Minister Brock, *Geoff*

I write to you on behalf of **Clause 6(1)** who has suggested South Australian veterans receive specialised license plates recognising their service.

Mr Soutter, who served in the Australian Army, believes license plates similar to those available in the United States should be provided to South Australians who served in the armed forces.

I would appreciate your advice for inclusion in my response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erin Thompson'.

Erin Thompson MP

Member for Davenport

19 May 2022

Ref: VET001

Shop 11, The Hub Shopping Centre Taylors Road Aberfoyle 5159
PO Box 1137 Flagstaff Hill SA 5159 | 8270 5122 | davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au



DIT:Minister Brock

From: DIT:Minister Brock
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 12:11 PM
To: Davenport EO
Subject: 22MINVA-0044 - Letter from Minister - Erin Thompson MP
Attachments: 22MINVA-0044 - Erin Thompson MP.pdf

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Davenport EO

Please see attached a letter from the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Geoff Brock MP.

Kind regards

Dinh Nguyen

A/Executive Officer

Office of the Hon Geoff Brock MP

Minister for Local Government | Minister for Veterans Affairs | Minister for Regional Roads

T +61 (08) 7133 1200

E Minister.Brock@sa.gov.au

Level 10, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, South Australia 5000
GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5000 | DX 171



**Government of
South Australia**

OFFICIAL

Hon Geoff Brock MP

Government
of South Australia

22MINVA-0044

Ms Erin Thompson MP
Member for Davenport
PO Box 1137
FLAGSTAFF HILL SA 5159
davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Thompson *Erin*

Thank you for your recent correspondence on behalf of your constituent **Clause 6(1)** regarding specialised license plates for South Australian veterans.

I apologise for the delay in responding. I recognise this was a result of my office establishing the appropriate processes and systems to manage correspondence during the early weeks following the state election. I thank you for your patience and appreciate you taking the time to write to me.

The South Australian Government, through Veterans SA, is currently undertaking a project to consider ways to better identify veterans who interact with the State Government across its agencies. Veterans SA is also looking at ways to improve the range and access of State Government concessions available to the veterans community.

Clause 6(1) feedback is very much appreciated and has been provided to Veterans SA for consideration as part of these projects.

Thank you again for your correspondence and I trust this information will assist you in responding to **Clause 6(1)**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Geoff Brock'.

Hon Geoff Brock MP
MINISTER FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

7/7 / 2022

DIT:Minister Brock

From: DIT:Minister Brock
Sent: Tuesday, 5 July 2022 3:41 PM
To: Davenport EO
Subject: 22MINLG-0108 - Ministerial Letter - THOMPSON, Erin MP
Attachments: 22MINLG-0108 - THOMPSON, Erin MP.pdf

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Davenport EO

Please see attached a letter from the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Geoff Brock MP.

Kind regards

Ellie Stenner

Office of the Hon Geoff Brock MP

Minister for Local Government | Minister for Regional Roads | Minister for Veterans Affairs

T (08) 7133 1200 | | E Minister.Brock@sa.gov.au

Level 10, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide SA 5000 | GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5000 | DX 171

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.

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Hon Geoff Brock MP



Government
of South Australia

22MINLG-0108

Ms Erin Thompson MP
Member for Davenport
PO Box 1137
FLAGSTAFF HILL SA 5159
davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Thompson *ERIN*

I am writing to provide information on council rates to assist you and your Electorate Office staff in dealing with enquiries that might arise as your constituents start receiving their council rates notices over the coming weeks.

COUNCILS' RATE-SETTING PROCESS

Under the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) all councils are required to adopt an annual business plan and budget prior to setting their rates each year. One of the most important parts of this work is the decision that each council makes on the total amount of revenue, including rates, it needs to deliver the services and functions that, in its view, are desired by its community.

Once a council makes this decision, it then uses property valuations to determine how its ratepayers will contribute to this overall amount. Usually, ratepayers that own a more highly valued property in a council area will contribute more to this total amount than another ratepayer that has a relatively low valued property in that area.

However, it is often mistakenly thought that property valuations determine the level of rates—that is, that council rates automatically increase or decrease in line with changes to property value. This is not the case. Property valuations are used by councils to determine the proportion of the total rate revenue amount that each ratepayer contributes.

If property values increase, councils can decrease the rate in the dollar applied to properties to ensure that the amount of rates collected is what is needed to fund its annual business plan, rather than using increased values to generate a 'windfall' for the council.

Councils also have a wide range of tools available to them within the Act to determine a rating strategy that, in their view, best suits their community. These include differential rating (where a council may apply different rates in the dollar to different land uses or locations) and a minimum rate or fixed charge (to ensure that all ratepayers make a certain contribution to the services in the area).

Councils can also choose to moderate the impact of increased property valuations by setting a maximum increase in the general rate to be charged on any rateable land within its area that is a ratepayer's the principal place of residence.

Importantly, councils must be accountable to their communities for their rating decisions. A key element of this is the requirement under the Act for councils to consult with their community on their draft annual business plan, which includes information on proposed rating decisions. This assists each council to strike an appropriate balance between community demands for services and infrastructure and raising the revenue needed to pay for them.

The Act currently requires councils to adopt their annual business plan between 31 May and 15 August each year. When the annual business plan has been adopted, councils then declare their rates. These rates are based on property valuations that have been adopted by the council. All councils (other than the City of Adelaide) use valuations provided by the Valuer-General, which are published in the South Australian Government Gazette on the last Thursday of May each year. To enable councils to develop their draft annual business plans and rating strategies, the Office of the Valuer-General provides 'rounds' of updated valuation material to councils on a regular basis before this gazettal.

Historically, most councils adopt their plans during June and July. This is a particularly important time of year and if your constituents raise concerns with you regarding their council's rates, I encourage you to suggest that they get involved in their council's annual business plan and budget process.

INDIVIDUAL RATE RELIEF

It is important to note and inform constituents that councils also have the power to provide relief to individual ratepayers. Councils may grant a rebate of rates or service charges to provide relief due to—

- (i) a redistribution of the rates burden within the community arising from a change to the basis or structure of the council's rates; or
- (ii) a change to the basis on which the land is valued for the purpose of rating, rapid changes in valuations, or anomalies in valuations.

Councils also have the ability to assist ratepayers who may be suffering hardship, as they have the discretion to postpone payments, or remit rates in whole or in part in these circumstances.

Furthermore, eligible State Seniors Card holders can apply to a council to postpone payment of a large part of their council rates. The scheme helps older ratepayers who have a high level of equity in their home but are on limited incomes.

If any of your constituents raise concerns about their ability to pay their council rates, I suggest that you encourage and support them to approach their council directly, to discuss what rate relief measures may be available to them.

REVIEWS AND OBJECTIONS

You may also wish to alert your constituents to the fact that all councils must have procedures in place to review decisions of the council, employees of the council and other persons acting on behalf of the council. These reviews may focus specifically on the impact of a rate or service charge. Information about councils' internal review of decision procedures is generally available from each council's website.

If a ratepayer remains dissatisfied with the council's response, they may wish to consider contacting the South Australian Ombudsman. The Ombudsman also has specific powers under the Act to carry out an investigation if it appears that a council's declaration of any rate or service charge may have had an unfair or unreasonable impact on a particular ratepayer.

The Ombudsman's Office can be contacted on telephone (08) 8226 8699 or via ombudsman@ombudsman.sa.gov.au. Further information on how to make a complaint can be found on the Ombudsman's website at www.ombudsman.sa.gov.au.

If a constituent has concerns regarding the valuation of their property, they may wish to lodge an objection to the Valuer-General within 60 days of receiving the first rates notice for the financial year. There is no fee for lodging an objection. Further information on lodging an objection is available on telephone 1300 653 346 or at www.sa.gov.au/topics/planning-and-property/owning-a-property/objecting-to-a-property-valuation.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Councils in Focus website at councilsinfocus.sa.gov.au also provides detailed information about each council's revenue and expenditure, so that all ratepayers can see how their council compares with both similar councils and to the state average on a range of functions. This website can provide valuable information to support ratepayers' engagement with their council.

Finally, you may be aware that a new scheme has now been established in which the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) will provide independent advice to councils on their revenue and rating decisions within the context of their long-term financial planning. This advice should help to inform and assure ratepayers that the rating decisions made by their council each year are reasonable.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and your constituents.

Yours sincerely



Hon Geoff Brock MP
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

517 / 2022

DIT:Minister Brock

From: Davenport EO <Davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 21 July 2022 12:12 PM
To: DIT:Minister Brock
Subject: 22MINVA-0083 Correspondence from Erin Thompson MP
Attachments: VET002 **Clause 6(1)** Brock MP.pdf

Categories: Veteran Affairs

Good Afternoon

Please see attached correspondence from Erin Thompson MP

Kind Regards

Phoebe
Trainee



Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT
Delivering for Davenport



8270 5122 | PO Box 1137, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159 | Shop 11,
The Hub Shopping Centre, Taylors Road Aberfoyle Park 5159

  [erinthompsondavenport](#)

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Erin Thompson MP

MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT



Hon Geoff Brock MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
GPO Box 1533
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister Brock,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Geoff'.

I write to you on behalf of **Clause 6(1)** who recently contacted my office regarding the Federal Government's Veteran White Card.

Clause 6(1) believes benefits for White Card holders should be expanded to include concessions for a range of living expenses – including motor vehicle registration, council rates, utilities, and medications.

I appreciate the proposed concessions would span the three tiers of government, which creates a unique challenge.

Given the complexities associated with **Clause 6(1)** proposal, I have also taken the opportunity to write to the Federal Minister for Veterans' Affairs – the Hon Matt Keogh MP – to draw his department's attention to this matter.

I would appreciate your advice for inclusion in my response to **Clause 6(1)**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erin Thompson'.

Erin Thompson MP
Member for Davenport

20 July 2022

Ref: VET002

Shop 11, The Hub Shopping Centre Taylors Road Aberfoyle 5159
PO Box 1137 Flagstaff Hill SA 5159 | 8270 5122 | davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au



DIT:Minister Brock

From: DIT:Minister Brock
Sent: Thursday, 4 August 2022 11:03 AM
To: Davenport EO
Subject: 22MINVA-0083 - Acknowledgement

Categories: Veterans' Affairs

OFFICIAL

Dear Ms Thompson

On behalf of the Minister for Veterans Affairs, the Hon Geoff Brock MP, I acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated 20 July 2022 on behalf of **Clause 6(1)** regarding available concessions for holders of the Australian Government's White Card.

I am advised that the matters raised in your correspondence fall within the responsibilities of the Minister for Human Services, the Hon Nat Cook MP. Accordingly, your correspondence has been referred to Minister Cook's office for consideration.

For your information Minister Cook's office reference number for this matter is 22MHS/0738.

Kind regards

Enza Pullino
Office Manager

Office of the Hon Geoff Brock MP
Minister for Local Government | Minister for Regional Roads | Minister for Veterans Affairs

T +61 (08) 7133 1200
E Minister.Brock@sa.gov.au

Level 10, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, South Australia 5000
GPO Box 1533, Adelaide SA 5000 | DX 171



**Government of
South Australia**

From: Davenport EO <Davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 21 July 2022 12:12 PM
To: DIT:Minister Brock <minister.brock@sa.gov.au>
Subject: 22MINVA-0083 Correspondence from Erin Thompson MP

Good Afternoon

Please see attached correspondence from Erin Thompson MP

Kind Regards

Phoebe
Trainee



Erin Thompson MP
MEMBER FOR DAVENPORT
Delivering for Davenport



8270 5122 | PO Box 1137, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159 | Shop 11,
The Hub Shopping Centre, Taylors Road Aberfoyle Park 5159

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