



Government  
of South Australia

Hon Kyam Maher MLC  
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
E-mail: [maher.office@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:maher.office@parliament.sa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Maher

**APPLICATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991**

I refer to your application to the office of the Minister for Energy and Mining made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act), received in this office on 17 July 2019. Your application sought 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.*

Following an email sent to your office on 24 July 2019 and approval from Mr Andrew Love, the scope of your application was revised 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 or the Liberal for Sturt campaign **in relation to** the Liberal for Sturt campaign.*

A search was conducted for documents held by the office of the Minister for Energy and Mining, two documents were located that are within the amended scope of your application and I have determined to release both documents in full.

If you are not satisfied with this determination you have a legal right of review and appeal. Details on your review can be found by visiting [www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/foi-forms](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/foi-forms).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Grant Hickman".

**Grant Hickman**  
Office Manager  
Office of the Minister for Energy and Mining

16 / 8 / 2019

**Freedom of Information  
DOCUMENT SCHEDULE**

File No FOI19D0011

**Minister for Energy and Mining**

**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 or the Liberal for Sturt campaign in relation to the Liberal for Sturt campaign.**

<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Date of Doc</b>	<b>Full Access</b>	<b>Part Access or Refused Access</b>	<b>Other</b>
1	Email – To Chief of staff	3 March 2019	Full		
2	James Stevens Resignation Letter	3 March 2019	Full		

## James, Dorothy (DEM)

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**Subject:** FW: Chief of Staff - Resignation  
**Attachments:** Resignation Letter.jpg

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

### 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

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Level 15, State Administration Centre, 200 Victoria Square, Adelaide SA 5000

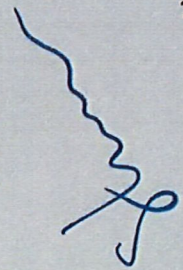
M: 0412 833 898

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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James Stevens  
Chief of Staff  
Premier of South Australia



Kind regards,

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

Despite what may or may not play an appropriate role in ensuring the government's longevity, and my part in campaigning for the deserved re-election of your government in 2022, I will always be held by a person exclusively focused on serving you, and I believe that has been my conduct throughout my time with you.

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 to play in that role. I had the privilege to play in that role through the entirety of your leadership of the government, and I will always cherish the role. The undoubted highlight was of course last year's historic election victory. I will always cherish the role. The undoubted highlight was of course last year's historic election victory.

It has been my greatest pleasure to serve in this role through the entirety of your leadership of the government, and I will always cherish the role. The undoubted highlight was of course last year's historic election victory. I will always cherish the role. The undoubted highlight was of course last year's historic election victory.

Dear Premier,

3rd March 2019  
Hon Steven Marshall MP  
Premier of South Australia  
State Administration Centre  
200 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000

