

25 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA GPO Box 2252, Adelaide SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5001

Phone: 08 8203 7173

Email: taryn.alderdice@councilsolutions.sa.gov.au

23 November 2016

Ms Elizabeth Batten
Senior Project Officer, Adjudication
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: elizabeth.batten@accc.gov.au; **cc:** darrell.channing@accc.gov.au; natalie.morton@accc.gov.au

Dear Ms Batten,

A91520 COUNCIL SOLUTIONS & ORS – APPLICATION FOR AUTHORISATION OF A COMBINED WASTE TENDER PROCESS, FURTHER QUERIES REGARDING COUNCIL SOLUTIONS' APPLICATION

I refer to your email dated 22 November 2016 in regards to the ongoing assessment of the application and the request for further information. The ACCC has requested Council Solutions provides further information to the queries below. Council Solutions is happy to do so and confirms this may be placed on the Public Register.

1. Council Solutions' application provides data about the rateable properties as an indicator of the municipal waste collection points In our assessment, we are interested in considering the best proxy for municipal collection points. In interested parties' submissions, this is typically framed in terms of number of households (see for example page 5 of WRASA's submission dated 11 April).

Are you able to confirm whether rateable properties is the best measure for municipal waste collection points? If this is not the case, can you please specify the number of households / collection points for each of the participating councils?

Council Solutions has provided both the rateable properties and population as indicators of the Participating Councils' market share as these are both third party sourced, publically available information. The population is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the rateable properties is sourced from the Local Government Association of South Australia's Local Government Directory. Not only is this information readily available for third parties to verify, it can also provide the same numbers for every local government across South Australia, providing a clear indication of the Participating Councils' market share.

Council Solutions' notes WRASA's submission dated 11 April and while households are mentioned, there is no data provided to state what the number of households is that should be used. In WRASA's submission dated 28 September 2016 it is claimed on pages 38 and 66

1. The City of Adelaide is listed as having a population of 22,690 and rateable properties of 22,735. This is a 1:1 ratio whereas all other Councils have a 2:1 population which is logical based on an average household having 2 occupants. We assume Council Solutions ha[s] erroneously used two population numbers rather than the rateable properties number.



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Council Solutions rejects this allegation by providing, at Annexure A, a copy of the ABS report referred to in the Supporting Submission and an extract from the LGA's Local Government Directory. Additionally, Council Solutions note Adelaide City Council is a Capital City Council and the location of the Central Business District, with very little residential areas (predominately in North Adelaide). As such, there is a large proportion of apartment buildings and student accommodation, designed for sole occupancy, as well as a very large number of commercial rateable properties that do not have residents for population purposes. Therefore, a ratio of 1:1, as compared to 2:1 for the other Participating Councils, should be expected.

For completeness, Council Solutions submits the following Household and Service-Entitled Premises numbers for each of the Participating Councils. This is sourced from each Participating Council's internal rating system. A Service-Entitled Premise is any premise entitled to a collection service, which is outlined in each Participating Council's waste collection contract (NB: terminology may differ from council to council, however this is the terminology used in the LGA's Model Waste Management Contract which is used by most South Australian local governments).

| Council | Households | Service- Entitled Premises | Rateable Properties | | Population | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | Properties | % of All Metropolitan Councils | People | % of All Metropolitan Councils |
| Corporation of the City of Adelaide | 10,828 | 10,917 | 22,735 | 3.88% | 22,690 | 1.80% |
| City of Charles Sturt | 50,455 | 54,289 | 54,067 | 9.23% | 112,714 | 8.94% |
| City of Marion | 39,663 | 40,986 | 41,011 | 7.00% | 88,292 | 7.00% |
| City of Tea Tree Gully | 38,369 | 38,492 | 39,393 | 6.73% | 98,575 | 7.82% |
| City of Port Adelaide Enfield | 53,961 | 58,298 | 59,579 | 10.18% | 122,205 | 9.69% |
| TOTAL | 193,276 | 202,982 | 216,785 | 37.03% | 444,476 | 35.25% |

As can be seen from the table above, there is no more than 2.5% difference between the number of Service-Entitled Premises and Rateable Properties for the Cities of Charles Sturt, Marion, Tea Tree Gully and Port Adelaide Enfield. For Adelaide City Council, the number of Service-Entitled Premises is half the number of Rateable Properties which, as outlined above, is to be expected given the high proportion of commercial buildings in the Central Business District that are not entitled to collection services. This difference potentially overstates the Participating Councils' market share as a result, however Council Solutions maintain its position regarding the Participating Councils' market share.

2. Are you able to provide a public submission in relation to the opportunity for improvement [for waste collection from high density multi-unit developments] in relation to the opportunity for improvement and the way in which the proposed conduct is likely to create the opportunity for a supplier to offer more efficient collection operations in this area?

High density multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) require larger bulk bins that are collected by rear lift trucks instead of side lift trucks (used for the kerbside, three bin collections). When taken in isolation, each Participating Council that operates services to MUDs are only servicing a small number making the service relatively inefficient as there are insufficient services within each Participating Council area individually to create whole runs for collection vehicles. This inefficiency makes the service relatively expensive to provide on a unit basis compared with kerbside services.



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By working in partnership with other Participating Councils, it will be possible for services to be undertaken on a more efficient basis by creating whole runs filled for each collection vehicle. It has already been seen on an individual Council level that increasing the number of MUDs serviced decreases the unit cost which can be expected to continue where there is collaboration. The two primary Participating Councils requiring this service, Adelaide City Council and the City of Charles Sturt, are also geographically aligned, which feeds into the expected efficiencies. As well as cost benefits for the ratepayers, more efficient vehicle movement will result in environmental benefits, such as reducing the number of emissions.

Medium to high density residential development is increasing and it can be expected the number of MUDs being serviced will also increase. Some MUDs are currently being serviced by kerbside bins as it is currently not viable for the Council to provide a bulk bin service due to the high cost. As the number of MUDs increase across the Participating Councils and the cost of bulk bin services decrease, the Council may look to negotiate with their residents a change in service provision to provide a more efficient service. Consistency in education to the residents across the Participating Councils' areas, as well as mutual learning from those already servicing MUDs with bulk bins are additional benefits the Proposed Conduct will bring.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any queries regarding this.

Kind Regards,

Taryn Alderdice

Contract Management Officer

Council Solutions



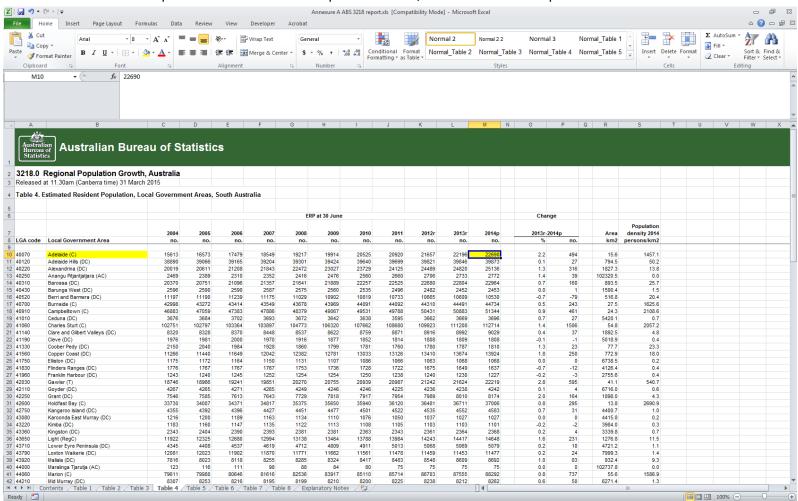
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ANNEXURE A

A screenshot of the ABS report has been attached for quick reference, the full file has been provided as an Excel file also.





2015 South Australian Local Government Directory



















www.lgaprocurement.sa.gov.au Email: lgaprocurement@lga.sa.gov.au

Adelaide City Council

25 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000 (GPO Box 2252, Adelaide SA 5001)

Phone:

8203 7203 Fax: 8203 7575 city@adelaidecitycouncil.com

Email: Website:

www.adelaidecitycouncil.com

Council Meeting Detail

Council Meeting:

2nd & 4th Tuesday every month at 6:00pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm

Committee Meeting: Planning Meeting:

1st & 3rd Monday of the month at 5.30pm

Elected Members

The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Mr Martin Haese

Area Councillors

Cr Anne Moran

Cr Natasha Malani

Cr Sandy Wilkinson

Cr Robert Simms

North Ward Councillors

Cr Sue Clearihan

Cr Phil Martin

Central Ward Councillors

Cr Megan Hender

Cr Houssam Abiad

Cr Dave Slama

South Ward Councillors

Cr Priscilla Corbell

Cr Alex Antic

Corporate Information

Auditors

KPMG (internal): BDO (external)

Bank

National Australia Bank

Solicitor

Norman Waterhouse / Wallmans / Piper

Alderman / CowellClarke

Council Statistics

Population

: 21,590 : 756.6 FTE's

Number of Employees Total Operating Revenue

: \$172,352,000

Number of Electors

: 23,489 : 22.735

Number of Rateable Properties

: Adelaide

State Electorate

Federal Electorate

: Adelaide

Suburbs / Towns

Adelaide 5000, North Adelaide 5006.



Chief Executive Officer

General Manager - City Culture & Community Services

General Manager – City Infrastructure & Public Works

Acting General Manager - City Planning

General Manager - City & Organisational Development

General Manager - Finance & Corporate Services

: Peter Smith

: Sandy Verschoor : Neil Brown

: David Chick

: Jane Booth

: Peter Scargill

Council Contact Officers:

Accessible City

Active City

Adelaide Town Hall

Capital Works

City Activation

City Community

City Design

City Planning

City Growth & Investment

City Safety & Customer Service

Finance & Risk

Information & Communication Technology

Infrastructure Management Marketing & Creative Services

Office of Busuness Services

Office of the Chief Executive Officer

Office of the Lord Mayor

Office of Major Projects & Initiatives

People & Culture Public Realm

Residential Growth & Development

Strategic Property & Facilities Management

Strategy and Innovation

Sustainable City

Vibrant City

- Tanya Bacic

- Matthew Rechner

- Trevor Barker

- Mike Blythe

- Noni Williams

- Sabine Jung

- Angela Orchard

- Don Donaldson

- Mick O'Neil

- Joanna Beaumont

- Mark Gray

- Luu Nguyen

- Vacant - Christine Evans

- Gavin Webster

- Kylie Bennetts

- Jane Reed

- Nicola Hurdle

- Vanessa Petterson

- Tom McCready

- Mike Philippou

- Mike Philippou

- Clare Mockler

- Adrian Stokes

- Penny McAuley

Local Industries

Retail, Education, Tourism, Finance & Insurance, Government, Administration Services, Health, Creative Digital Technology, Culture, Placemaking.

Major Tourist Attractions

Botanic Gardens, Zoo, Museum, Art Gallery, Festival Centre, Rundle Lantern, Park Lands, Adelaide Oval, Major Events including the: Adelaide Fringe, Adelaide Festival, Feast Festival, WOMAdelaide, Santos Tour Down Under, Clipsal 500.

