

7 August 2019

The Lord Mayor  
Ms Sandy Verschoor  
City of Adelaide  
GPO Box 2252  
Adelaide 5001

Dear Lord Mayor

SECRA has been contacted by a resident of the South East precinct of the city who was extremely upset by the disclosure of her personal information as a result of her responding to the Residential and Main Street DPA "Your Say" in October 2012. She was located by someone who only knew her Christian name but who googled a few surnames starting with 'R' and because they recalled her street name as starting with a 'B', managed to locate her full details. A search of the internet provides a list of all of the names of the respondents to the above mentioned "Your Say" together with their addresses and submissions. The resident no longer feels safe with her full name and address being made available to anyone who casually googles.

SECRA has raised concern with the City of Adelaide Council on many occasions about the inability for respondents to "Your Say" and other submissions to have the option for their names and addresses not to be published. SECRA is of the view that the public disclosure of respondents' names and addresses not only discourages people from responding but also can deter them from providing honest responses that could well result in adverse reactions from others particularly through the internet and social media.

When raising this issue with Council previously SECRA has been advised that if the submission is associated with a legislative matter then there is a legal requirement that the names and addresses of respondents be made public. SECRA is of the view that this is in conflict with the Privacy Principles Instruction contained in Premier and Cabinet Circular 12 that governs the collection, storage, use and disclosure of personal information collected by Government agencies.

It is therefore requested that:

- Where there is not a legal requirement for respondents to "Your Say" or other City of Adelaide submissions to provide their names and addresses that they be given the option not to have their names and addresses disclosed, along with anything in their submission that may identify them to be blacked out.
- The option to not have their names and addresses disclosed be given prominence in the call for submissions in order to encourage responses to "Your Say" or other City of Adelaide requests for submissions.
- The City of Adelaide approach the SA Government with a view to changing the requirement for respondents' names and addresses to submissions associated with legislative matters to be made public and that respondents be provided with an option to not have their names and addresses disclosed.

The above resident who contacted SECRA regarding her concerns about her name and address being available on the public record has asked if her name and address could be removed from the list of respondents to the Residential and Main Street DPA "Your Say" in October 2012.

It would be appreciated if someone could contact me regarding the removal of her name and address and I can provide them with her details.

Yours sincerely



John Underwood  
Chairperson, South East City Residents Association  
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