

504

MEC0085/04CS

Overseas Travel - Minister for Environment and  
Conservation  
APPROVED

Not Relevant

504

## CABINET COVER SHEET

1. **TITLE:** OVERSEAS TRAVEL – MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
2. **MINISTER:** Hon John Hill MP  
Minister for Environment and Conservation
3. **PURPOSE:** To seek Cabinet approval for the Minister to visit Europe for the period 13 to 31 March 2005 (inclusive) to identify strategies and initiatives in sustainability development; and the appointment of an Acting Minister for the same period.
4. **RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT POLICY:** The State Strategic Plan objective of *Attaining Sustainability*.
5. **RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION:** Travel costs for Mr Allan Holmes will be met from the Department for Environment and Heritage's budget and travel costs for the Lord Mayor will be met by the Adelaide City Council. Other travel costs, including the cost for Mr Brer Adams will be met from within the Ministerial office budget. The Minister's spouse will travel as private expense.
6. **COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** No major impacts have been identified. It is anticipated that this will provide an opportunity for learning and exchange of information for strategic approaches to regional governance for sustainability and climate change policy development and implementation.
7. **RISKS:** No significant risks have been identified.
8. **CONSULTATION:** Herbert Girardet and Charles Landry, Adelaide Thinkers in Residence  
Margie Caust Director, Capital City Committee
9. **COMMUNICATION STRATEGY:** There are no proposals to publicise the trip.
10. **URGENCY:** For consideration on 13 December 2004

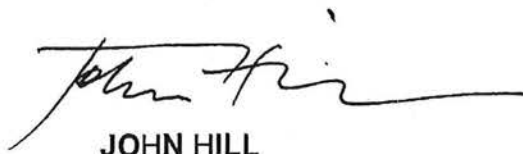
**11. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 4.1 Approve overseas travel to Europe for the Minister for Environment and Conservation for the period 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive to undertake high level visits and examine strategic approaches to regional governance for sustainability and climate change policy development and implementation;
- 4.2 Note that the Minister will be accompanied by his spouse, his Chief of Staff, Mr Brer Adams, Chief Executive Department for Environment & Heritage, Mr Allan Holmes and the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison;
- 4.3 Approve the recommendation to Her Excellency, the Governor in Executive Council to appoint Hon Terry Roberts MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Minister for Correctional Services and Minister Assisting the Minister for Environment and Conservation to be Acting Minister for Environment and Conservation, Acting Minister for the Southern Suburbs and Acting Minister Assisting the Premier in the Arts from 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive, in the absence of Hon John Hill, MP.

**I declare that I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to the proposals contained in this submission.**

Signature of Minister:



**JOHN HILL**

Date:

2/12/04

**TO: THE PREMIER FOR CABINET**

**RE: OVERSEAS TRAVEL – MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

**1. PROPOSAL**

That Cabinet:

- 1.1. Approve overseas travel to Europe for the Minister for Environment and Conservation to undertake high level visits and examine strategic approaches to regional governance for sustainability and climate change policy development and implementation for the period 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive;
- 1.2. Note that the Minister will be accompanied by his spouse, his Chief of Staff, Mr Brer Adams, Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Heritage, Mr Allan Holmes and the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison;
- 1.3. Recommend to Her Excellency, the Governor in Executive Council the appointment of Hon Terry Roberts MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Minister for Correctional Services and Minister Assisting the Minister for Environment and Conservation to be Acting Minister for Environment and Conservation, Acting Minister for the Southern Suburbs and Acting Minister Assisting the Premier in the Arts from 13 March to 31 March 2005 inclusive, in the absence of Hon John Hill.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. The visit to Europe will take in the cities of Glasgow, Cardiff, Bristol, Montpellier, London, Freiburg, and Bilbao. The City of Glasgow has participated in the Scottish Cities Footprint Report, which is a review of the resource consumption and ecological footprint of five Scottish cities and provides a comparative analysis of the environmental sustainability of the five cities.
- 2.2. The Welsh Government is a founding member of the International Network of Regional Government for Sustainable Development, which the South Australian Government has recently joined. A meeting with the Minister for Environment, Planning & Countryside would be in keeping with the information exchange and partnering intent of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development.
- 2.3. A visit to Bristol has been recommended by Adelaide Thinker in Residence, Mr Herbert Girardet who has suggested the possibility of twinning Adelaide and Bristol. The city's progress on sustainability planning and implementation is considered to be one of the most progressive in the UK.
- 2.4. Montpellier has become France's fastest growing city through investment in education and arts and culture. It has built a reputation as an international centre for innovation.

- 2.5. London will include a meeting with the London Sustainable Development Commission which has set out 13 sustainability objectives for London and provides context for policy development and implementation.
- 2.6. Freiburg, Germany will provide an opportunity to visit a city involved in the European Solar Cities Initiative which is an international leader in implementation of European energy and climate policies.
- 2.7. Bilbao, Spain is the capital of the Bisque Province of the Basque region and is currently experiencing substantial urban regeneration.
- 2.8. The purpose of the visit is to undertake high-level meetings that provide learning and information exchange opportunities for sustainable development and climate change policies.

### 3. DISCUSSION

3.1 The Premier has approved travel to Europe for the Minister for Environment and Conservation from 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive.

3.2 Key outcomes expected from the visit include:

3.2.1 A raised awareness of the State's environmental profile globally, an objective of the State Strategic Plan.

3.2.2 Information exchange opportunities for sustainable development and climate change policies.

3.3 The Minister for Environment and Conservation will be accompanied by his spouse, his Chief of Staff, Mr Brer Adams, Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Heritage, Mr Allan Holmes, and the Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison.

3.4 Economic, financial and budgetary implications

Costs associated with the visit for the Minister and Mr Adams will be met from within the existing Ministerial budget. Costs associated with the visit for Mr Allan Holmes will be met from the Department for Environment and Heritage budget. Costs associated with the visit for the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor Michael Harbison will be met by the Adelaide City Council. The Minister's spouse will travel at private expense.

There are no resource or staffing implications.

3.5 Impact on the community and the environment

It is anticipated that this will provide an opportunity for learning and exchange of information for strategic approaches to regional governance for sustainability and climate change policy development and implementation.

3.6 Risk Management Strategy

No significant risks have been identified.

3.7 Consultation

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Margie Caust, Director of the Capital City Committee  
Herbert Girardet and Charles Landry, Adelaide Thinkers in Residence.

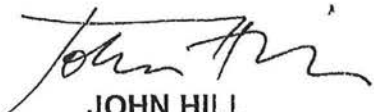
3.8 Executive Council

The appointment of an Acting Minister will require the consideration and approval of Her Excellency, the Governor, in Executive Council.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 4.1. Approve overseas travel to Europe for the Minister for Environment and Conservation for the period 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive to undertake high level visits and examine strategic approaches to regional governance for sustainability and climate change policy development and implementation;
- 4.2. Note that the Minister will be accompanied by his spouse, his Chief of Staff, Mr Brer Adams, Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Heritage, Mr Allan Holmes and the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison;
- 4.3. Approve the recommendation to Her Excellency, the Governor in Executive Council to appoint the Hon Terry Roberts MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Minister for Correctional Services and Minister Assisting the Minister for Environment and Conservation to be Acting Minister for Environment and Conservation, Acting Minister for the Southern Suburbs and Acting Minister Assisting the Premier in the Arts from 13 to 31 March 2005 inclusive, in the absence of the Hon John Hill, MP.



JOHN HILL  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

*Cabinet*

Date: *4/1/05*

13 MARCH 2005

APPROVED  
*[Signature]*  
PREMIER