



Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

NOTICE OF DECISION

Applicant:	Mr. Roydon Ng
File Ref:	20/004948
Decision maker:	Sharon Flynn, Right to Information Officer
Date of decision:	5 May 2020

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1. Summary of access application

On 20 April 2020, we received your access application under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act). You asked for the following information:

Between 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019

Correspondence between Bill Parasiris (Western Sydney University, Executive Director Estate and Commercial) and Canterbury Town Centre Alliance (CBTCA), Belmore Town Centre Alliance (CBTCA)*, Locals for Metro Southwest (LMS)**

**Persons representing/acting in this group include: Chris Tsioulos, Sharon Williams, Wesley Brown, Robert Czernkowski, Natasha Clyne, Nicholas Stevens, Delenda Est, Mark Rahme, Michael Gheorghiu, Aris Dimos, Michael Katz*

2. Decision

I am authorised by the principal officer, for the purposes of section 9(3) of the GIPA Act, to decide your access application.

I have decided, under section 58 (1)(a) of the GIPA Act, to provide access to the information, and under section 74 of the GIPA Act, to redact information from a copy of a record to which access is to be provided.

3. Searches for information

Under the GIPA Act, we must conduct reasonable searches for the government information you asked for in your application. I have searched our records to find any information that falls within the scope of your application.

Details of the search history are:

- A search of the University's records management system using the following search criteria:
 - date range - 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019;
 - keywords - Canterbury Town Centre Alliance; CBTCA; Belmore Town Centre Alliance; CBTCA; Locals for Metro Southwest; LMS
 - sender/recipient – Bill Parasiris, Chris Tsioulos, Sharon Williams, Wesley Brown, Robert Czernkowski, Natasha Clyne, Nicholas Stevens, Delenda Est, Mark Rahme, Michael Gheorghiu, Aris Dimos, Michael Katz
- Requesting Bill Parasiris to search his email correspondence and provide the information found.

4. The public interest test

Under section 9(1) of the GIPA Act, you have a legally enforceable right to access the information you asked for, unless there is an overriding public interest against its disclosure.

Further, under section 5 of the GIPA Act, there is a presumption in favour of disclosing government information unless there is an overriding public interest against its disclosure.

To decide whether or not there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information you asked for, I applied the public interest test, which is set out in section 13 of the GIPA Act.

I applied the public interest test by:

- (a) identifying any public interest considerations in favour of disclosure;
- (b) identifying any relevant public interest considerations against disclosure; and
- (c) deciding where the balance between them lies.

I did this in the way required by section 15 of the GIPA Act, which is:

- (a) in a way that promotes the objects of the GIPA Act;
- (b) with regard to any relevant guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner;
- (c) without taking into account the fact that disclosure of information may cause embarrassment to, or a loss of confidence in, the Government (as that fact is irrelevant);
- (d) without taking into account the fact that disclosure of information might be misinterpreted or misunderstood by any person (as that fact is irrelevant); and
- (e) with regard to the fact that disclosure cannot be made subject to any conditions on the use or disclosure of information.

4.1 Public interest considerations in favour of disclosure

Under section 12(1) of the GIPA Act, there is a general public interest in favour of disclosing government information. Section 12(2) of the GIPA Act sets out some examples of other public interest considerations in favour of disclosure. However, I am not limited to those considerations in deciding your application.

I find the following considerations in favour of disclosure are relevant to your application:

- (a) The information could reasonably promote open discussion of public affairs and contribute to positive and informed debate on issues of public importance (Section 12(2)(a) of the GIPA Act)

4.2 Personal factors of the application

I can also take into account any personal factors of your application, under section 55 of the GIPA Act. I have considered:

- There are no personal factors relevant to the application

4.3 Public interest considerations against disclosure

When applying the public interest test, the only public interest considerations against disclosure that I can take into account are those set out in the table to section 14 of the GIPA Act. To show that they are relevant to the information you asked for, I need to consider whether they could reasonably be expected to have the effect outlined in the table.

I have identified the following consideration against disclosure as being relevant to your application.

- 1(c) prejudice relations with, or the obtaining of confidential information from, another agency

A comment from one staff member to another, based on advice from an external agency, if disclosed, may prejudice relations with that external agency.

4.4 Consultation

The information that you asked for included information that required consultation. I was therefore required, under section 54 of the GIPA Act, to consult with those people before releasing the information.

I sent an email to each individual whose name and contact details were contained in the information. Two individuals responded, one of whom requested their name and contact details be removed prior to releasing the information. The request was based upon having previously been subjected to 'threatening calls and harassment' in regards to the group being represented.

The objection does not mean that I cannot release the information. However, I must take it into account when making my decision. I have therefore considered it when applying and balancing the public interest test.

4.5 Balancing the public interest test

I have considered the relevant public interest considerations in favour of and against disclosure of the information you requested. I have also considered the objection raised by the third party.

Having weighed up the considerations, I have decided that there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of some of the information. This is summarised in the attached Schedule of Documents.

5. Access

5.1 Form of access

You will be given an electronic copy of the information that I have decided can be released. As discussed, there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of some but not all of the information. You will therefore find that some of the information has been redacted, as allowed by section 74 of the GIPA Act.

6. Disclosure log

If information that would be of interest to other members of the public is released in response to a formal access application, an agency must record certain details about the application in its 'disclosure log' (under sections 25 and 26 of the GIPA Act).

In the letter acknowledging receipt of your valid application, sent on 22 April 2020, you were told about the disclosure log. You were also advised of your right to object to the inclusion of details about your access application in the disclosure log, in certain circumstances (for example, if you seek access to your own personal information).

You did not object to details about your application being included in the disclosure log.

7. Review rights

If you disagree with any of the decisions in this notice that are reviewable, you may seek a review under Part 5 of the GIPA Act. Before you do so, I encourage you to contact me to discuss your concerns. My contact details are set out below.

You have three review options:

- internal review by another officer of this agency, who is no less senior than me;
- external review by the Information Commissioner; or
- external review by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

You have 20 working days from the date of this Notice to apply for an internal review. If you would prefer to have the decision reviewed externally, you have 40 working days from the date of this Notice to apply for a review by the Information Commissioner or NCAT.

To assist you, I have enclosed a fact sheet published by the Information and Privacy Commission NSW (IPC), entitled *Your review rights under the GIPA Act*. You will also find some useful information and frequently asked questions on the IPC's website:

www.ipc.nsw.gov.au.

You can also contact the IPC on freecall 1800 IPC NSW (1800 472 679).

8. Further information

If you have any questions about this notice or would like any further information, please

contact Sharon Flynn, via email rti@westernsydney.edu.au

.....
Sharon Flynn
Right to Information Officer
Western Sydney University

Schedule of Documents

No.	Description of record that contains the information	Format of record	Location of record in agency	Released or withheld	Relevant public interest consideration(s) against disclosure
1.	Locals for Metro Southwest Launch - invitation	Email string	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Partially released	3 (f) – expose a person to a risk of harm or of serious harassment or serious intimidation
2.	Locals for Metro Southwest Launch – inability to attend	Email	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Partially released	3 (f) – expose a person to a risk of harm or of serious harassment or serious intimidation
3.	Locals for Metro Southwest – Introduction	Email	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Partially released	1 (c) – prejudice relations with, or the obtaining of confidential information from, another government
4.	Meeting arrangements – Locals for Metro Southwest	Email	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Partially released	3 (a) – reveal an individual's personal information
5.	Thanks and summation of meeting – Locals for Metro Southwest	Email	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Released	N/A
6.	Introduction to WipeHero	Email	Office of Executive Director, Estate & Commercial	Partially released	3 (a) – reveal an individual's personal information

Katherine Stanton

From: Wally Mehanna <ceo@swbcc.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 18 June 2018 3:25 PM
To: Bill Parasiris
Cc: Jacob Pala
Subject: Re: Locals For Metro Southwest Launch

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Fantastic and totally understand
See you both there

Yours faithfully

Wally Mehanna

CEO

SWBCC Board Member

M: [0416 012 747](tel:0416 012 747)

E: ceo@swbcc.org.au

W: www.swbcc.org.au



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Sent from my iPhone.

On 18 Jun 2018, at 15:19, Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au> wrote:

Dear Wally,

Bill has advised that he would like to attend this event and I have registered his details accordingly.

Bill has specified that he will attend the event but will not be speaking.

Kind regards,

Katherine

Katherine Stanton | Executive Assistant to the Executive Director
Office of Estate and Commercial
Division of Finance & Resources

P: 4570 1364

westernsydney.edu.au

<image001.jpg>

From: Wally Mehanna [<mailto:ceo@swbcc.org.au>]
Sent: Monday, 18 June 2018 2:17 PM
To: Bill Parasiris
Cc: Jacob Pala
Subject: Fwd: Locals For Metro Southwest Launch

Hi Bill,

We both agree that Metro is a key project that would help generate growth and opportunities in our region.

Please see below invitation and I hope you can join the meeting.

Yours faithfully

Wally Mehanna

CEO

SWBCC Board Member

M: [0416 012 747](tel:0416012747)

E: ceo@swbcc.org.au

W: www.swbcc.org.au

***Note:** Privileged/Confidential information may be contained in this message and may be subject to legal privilege. Access to this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient (or responsible for delivery of the message to such person), you may not use, copy, distribute or deliver to anyone this message (or any part of its contents) or take any action in reliance on it. In such case, you should destroy this message, and notify us immediately. If you have received this email in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail or telephone and delete the e-mail from any computer. If you or your employer does not consent to internet e-mail messages of this kind, please notify us immediately. All reasonable precautions have been taken to ensure no viruses are present in this e-mail. As our organisation cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage arising from the use of this e-mail or attachments we recommend that you subject these to your virus checking procedures prior to use. The views, opinions, conclusions and other information expressed in this electronic mail are not given or endorsed by the organisation unless otherwise indicated by an authorised representative independent of this message.*

Sent from my iPhone.

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 18 June 2018 at 13:18:39 AEST
To: "ceo@swbcc.org.au" <ceo@swbcc.org.au>
Subject: Locals For Metro Southwest Launch

Dear Wally,

We write to formally extend an invitation to the University Of Western Sydney to the launch of Locals For Metro Southwest, which will take place this Wednesday, the 20th June at Canterbury Leagues Club at 6pm.

Locals for Metro Southwest is a non-for-profit community Group, recently established to provide a platform for residents, landowners, businesses and the general community to voice their support for the Metro Southwest and the Sydenham to Bankstown Urban Renewal Strategy. We were concerned that the negative voices were drowning out support for the project and putting at risk what we believe is a vital piece of infrastructure, which will revitalise the Canterbury Bankstown region. We are politically non-partisan and want both sides of politics to support the delivery of Metro Southwest and urban renewal strategy.

I am a part of the committee of Locals For Metro Southwest and the group is made up of a number of volunteers, all of whom are passionate about the Metro Southwest and urban renewal strategy.

I have attached our flyer and we would welcome the support of the University. For further information about our group, please direct the University to our website and

Facebook page as detailed on the attached flyers. We would also be more than happy to allocate some time for an attendee of the University to speak at our Launch event, possibly alongside yourself. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

Kind Regards,



Locals For Metro Southwest

Katherine Stanton

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 3:02 PM
To: Katherine Stanton
Subject: Re: Locals For Metro Southwest Launch

Hi Katherine, that's a shame but thank you for letting me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my SAMSUNG Galaxy S7 on the Telstra Mobile Network

----- Original message -----

From: Katherine Stanton <k.stanton@westernsydney.edu.au>
Date: 20/6/18 1:14 pm (GMT+10:00)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Locals For Metro Southwest Launch

Dear [REDACTED]

Bill Parasiris, Executive Director – Estate and Commercial, was to attend this evening's launch. Unfortunately, Bill has been asked to participate in an urgent meeting that has just arisen and is now unable to attend the launch.

My sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Kind regards,

Katherine

Katherine Stanton | Executive Assistant to the Executive Director
Office of Estate and Commercial
Division of Finance & Resources

P: 4570 1364

westernsydney.edu.au

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



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From: [REDACTED]
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Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]
Locals For Metro Southwest

Katherine Stanton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Andy Marks
Sent: Thursday, 12 July 2018 3:03 PM
To: Locals Metro Southwest <localsformetrosw@gmail.com>
Cc: Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au>
Subject: Re: Metro Southwest

Thank you for making contact, Nick

I'm sharing this with our Bankstown City Campus project lead, Bill Parasiris.

I'm sure he'll be delighted at the support for improved connectivity for Bankstown.

Cheers

Andy

Dr Andy Marks
Assistant Vice-Chancellor
Western Sydney University

From: Locals Metro Southwest <localsformetrosw@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 2:40 pm
To: Andy Marks
Subject: Metro Southwest

Hello Dr Marks,

My name is Nicholas Stevens and I represent the community organisation Locals for Metro Southwest (LMS). We are a community group representing the businesses and land owners in the Sydenham to Bankstown Corridor.

Upon reading the article in The Express, which demonstrated alignment with our view; the critical nature of this infrastructure to unlocking the community's full potential, we decided to reach out to you.

Our aim is to provide all members of the community access to real information and to empower everyone to voice their opinion. So far we have held 2 events with over 500 people attending, and achieved thousands of signatures to the attached petition. We would embrace the opportunity to collaborate with Western Sydney University in achieving our aligned interests, whether that be circulating our petition or a deeper engagement.

Please have someone from your office contact me through this email or phone number 0421 258 957 (Nicholas Stevens- LMS member).

Please find below a link to our website:

<http://www.localsformetrosw.org/>

Thanks,
Nick.

Katherine Stanton

From: Locals Metro Southwest <localsformetrosw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 23 July 2018 5:20 PM
To: Bill Parasiris
Subject: Re: Metro Southwest

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Katherine,

Thanks for confirming the meeting, please note below a suggested draft agenda outlining the key areas Locals for Metro Southwest (LMS) would like to discuss:

- How can LMS and Western Sydney University (WSU) collaborate to illustrate the local support for the Metro and the Corridor Strategy (eg student engagement projects).
- How can LMS circulate the petition which supports the Metro Southwest and Corridor Strategy throughout UWS (eg a table set up during O-Week to educate students about the project and seek their signature in support).
- Whether Dr. Andy Marks will be responding to Barbara Coorey's comments in The Express, and if so whether it would be beneficial for LMS to also comment.

If appropriate, I would also like to extend the invitation to Chris Tsioulos (LMS Chairman).

Kind Regards,
Nick

On 19 July 2018 at 11:13, Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au> wrote:

Thanks Nick.

Invitation will follow shortly.

Kind regards,

Katherine

Katherine Stanton | Executive Assistant to the Executive Director

Office of Estate and Commercial

Division of Finance & Resources

P: 4570 1364

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



From: Locals Metro Southwest [mailto:localsformetrosw@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, 19 July 2018 8:08 AM

To: Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au>

Subject: Re: Metro Southwest

Hi Katherine,

Wednesday 25th July at 4pm works well at the WSU Parramatta South Campus.

I look forward to the meeting.

Kind Regards,

Nick

On 17 July 2018 at 15:36, Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au> wrote:

Dear Nick,

Bill would be delighted to meet with you. Could you please advise if you are available to meet with Bill on either of the dates below?

- Wednesday, 25 July at 4pm (WSU Parramatta South campus)
- Thursday, 26 July at 2pm (WSU Parramatta CBD campus)

I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Kind regards,

Katherine

Katherine Stanton | Executive Assistant to the Executive Director

Office of Estate and Commercial

Division of Finance & Resources

P: 4570 1364

westernsydney.edu.au



From: Locals Metro Southwest [mailto:localsformetrosw@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, 16 July 2018 2:21 PM

To: Andy Marks <Andy.Marks@westernsydney.edu.au>

Cc: Bill Parasiris <B.Parasiris@westernsydney.edu.au>

Subject: Re: Metro Southwest

Hello Bill & Andy,

It's brilliant to hear that we are all working towards renewal for the Sydenham to Bankstown areas.

Bill, it would be great to meet in person over a coffee or lunch sometime to discuss how Locals for Metro Southwest and Western Sydney University could better show their support for the Metro together.

If so, what time(s) work best for you?

Thanks,

Nick.

On 12 July 2018 at 15:03, Andy Marks <Andy.Marks@westernsydney.edu.au> wrote:

Thank you for making contact, Nick

I'm sharing this with our Bankstown City Campus project lead, Bill Parasiris.

I'm sure he'll be delighted at the support for improved connectivity for Bankstown.

Cheers

Andy

Dr Andy Marks

Assistant Vice-Chancellor

Western Sydney University

From: Locals Metro Southwest <localsformetrosw@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 2:40 pm

To: Andy Marks

Subject: Metro Southwest

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Upon reading the article in The Express, which demonstrated alignment with our view; the critical nature of this infrastructure to unlocking the community's full potential, we decided to reach out to you.

Our aim is to provide all members of the community access to real information and to empower everyone to voice their opinion. So far we have held 2 events with over 500 people attending, and achieved thousands of signatures to the attached petition. We would embrace the opportunity to collaborate with Western Sydney University in achieving our aligned interests, whether that be circulating our petition or a deeper engagement.

Please have someone from your office contact me through this email or phone number [REDACTED] (Nicholas Stevens- LMS member).

Please find below a link to our website:

<http://www.localsformetrosw.org/>

Thanks,

Nick.

Katherine Stanton

From: Locals Metro Southwest <localsformetrosw@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 26 July 2018 6:23 PM
To: Bill Parasiris
Subject: Thank you

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Bill,

Chris and I would like to warmly thank you for your time in meeting with Locals for Metro Southwest (LMS) yesterday at Western Sydney University (WSU). Please see below our key takeaways from the meeting to ensure we're on the same page.

1. LMS acknowledges and respects the clear point made by Bill that WSU will not make any public comment or stance with politically aligned events.
2. The statements made by Dr Andy Marks reflected his personal view and did not reflect WSU's position.
3. WSU does have a vested interest and support for a proper Metro system that promotes high amenity and high connectivity.
4. Nick to make contact with the President of the Student Representative Council to engage any UWS students interested in supporting the Metro.

Once again, thank you for listening to our community's voice. We look forward to working together with you in driving the delivery of this city shaping project.

Kind Regards,

Nick

Katherine Stanton

From: Nick Stevens <nick@wipehero.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 December 2018 4:12 PM
To: Bill Parasiris
Subject: WipeHero

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Bill,

The last I spoke to you was regarding the Metro Southwest and an organisation that I organised, called Locals for Metro Southwest. I hope you're well since then, and also we should be expecting good news regarding the Metro tomorrow.

I'm contacting you today about an opportunity for Western Sydney University and the cleantech startup WipeHero. WipeHero was startup of the year in 2017, and is a innovative car washing service that uses no water and requires no infrastructure.

The opportunity for Western Sydney University is:

1. **Premium amenity for your campus sites at no cost:**

This is a great opportunity to provide staff and students a high-quality carwash service, without giving up any space or infrastructure costs. Customers simply park anywhere, and come back to a clean car.

2. **Sustainable:**

The University will be promoting sustainable practices by offering a green car wash. We save over 250L of water with every wash!

It already is partnered with Wilson car parks, GoGet and the University of New South Wales. We clean over 10,000 cars monthly ranging from high-end dealerships like Sydney Ferrari and Maserati.

It would be fantastic if you could put me in touch with someone who is able to make this happen for Western Sydney University. Please contact me here, or otherwise we are connected on LinkedIn.

Kind Regards,

Nick.

--

Nicholas Stevens
Consultant

T 
E nick@wipehero.com
A Level 1, 24 Bay St, Double Bay