

North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment Policy Briefing

Examining the features of effective environmental governance that should characterise the current and future management and use of the Adelaide Park Lands.

This brief outlines the key issues that have arisen from the South Australian Government's approach to redeveloping the North Adelaide Public Golf Course, located in the Adelaide Park Lands.

A range of legal and non-legal issues of public concern have surfaced in relation to this redevelopment, including **ecological biodiversity, climate health and resilience**, and **human wellbeing** needs.

For the North Adelaide Golf Course redevelopment, the South Australian Government introduced a specific Act to exclude or modify the operation of legislative protections that would otherwise apply to the redevelopment, including community rights of participation and consultation.

A development of this significance in a sensitive location calls for **meaningful** and **transparent** engagement with interested stakeholders. This includes the release of expert evidence outlining the potential impacts of the redevelopment, and affording opportunities for the public to make submissions.

We recommend the following actions for effective environmental governance on the management and use of the Adelaide Park Lands:

- Enshrine the rights of community engagement and participation in planning assessment and approval procedures
- Provide the community with timely, comprehensive and transparent information about developments

The Policy Brief Explores the:¹

History, role and importance of the
Adelaide Park Lands

Architecture of the planning regime in
South Australia

Management of animal welfare during
tree removal

South Australian Government non-referral
decision relating to the federal
environmental law

Protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage

Obligations of due diligence under the *OECD
Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on
Responsible Business Conduct*

¹. North Adelaide Golf Course Redevelopment: Law and Policy Brief (July 2026).