

Media Release



PETER MALINAUSKAS MP SA Labor Leader

Claims bidders offered \$1 million to stay in train privatisation

New Transport and Infrastructure Minister, Corey Wingard, must come clean with South Australians and reveal whether the Marshall Liberal Government offered tenderers involved in the train privatisation \$1 million if their bids were unsuccessful.

A whistleblower has claimed that two of the three bidders (Keolis Downer and TrainCo) attempted to pull out of the tender process, only to be encouraged continue with the promise of a \$1 million fee from the Government if unsuccessful.

The whistleblower also says one of the three bidders attempted to pull out of the process three times.

Three consortia were approved by the Government to bid for the contract: Adelaide Next (two German and a Chinese company), Keolis Downer (a French/Australian bid) and TrainCo,(a French/Spanish bid).

The train contract, which is for eight years with a possible extension of a further four years, is worth up to \$1 billion.

An announcement on the successful tender is imminent with the new operator scheduled to start in January 2021.

Labor has committed to scrapping the privatisation if it forms Government after the next election and bringing the train network back into public hands.

Quotes attributable to SA Labor Leader Peter Malinauskas

Steven Marshall is paying overseas companies to buy the train system we already own.

If these claims that the bidders for our rail contract really did get offered a million dollar “loser fee” to stay in the tender process, it would be a scandalous abuse of taxpayer’s money.

If companies bidding for a billion dollar contract have to be offered money to stay in the process, it says something about their commitment to providing South Australia with a quality train service.

I have committed to taking the rail network back into public hands if Labor forms the next Government because public transport must be about people not profit.

Pamela Perre 0447 525 822

