

LAURO
v
MINTER ELLISON (A FIRM)
[2026] HCADisp 23
A34/2025

1 The applicant seeks special leave to appeal from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of South Australia (Livesey P and Bleby JA) ordering that he pay costs on the "standard" basis of his unsuccessful application for leave to appeal from a judgment of the Supreme Court of South Australia (B Doyle J). Before the Court of Appeal, the respondent had unsuccessfully sought an order that the applicant pay the costs of the application for leave to appeal on an indemnity basis. The applicant has also sought an extension of time within which to seek special leave to appeal from the substantive judgment of the Court of Appeal, which has been refused (matter A27/2025). The only separate bases upon which special leave to appeal is sought in relation to the order that the applicant pay costs on the standard basis are that the Court of Appeal should not have determined the issue of costs while the special leave application in matter A27/2025 was pending before this Court, that the applicant was denied natural justice in relation to costs and that the Court of Appeal failed to apply "orthodox costs principles in public law litigation".

2 The application does not raise any question of general principle, and there is no reason to doubt the correctness of the decision of the Court of Appeal to warrant a grant of special leave to appeal.

3 Special leave to appeal is refused.

Gordon J
Beech-Jones J

5 February 2026