



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Disclosure Log Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

Application Details	
Ref. No.	CMTEDDFOI 2024-056
Date of Application	27 February 2024
Date of Decision	12 April 2024
Processing time (in working days)	30
Fees	N/A
Decision on Access	Refusal
Information Requested (summary)	Transport Ministers report on consultation process and changes to taxi lease fees.
Publication Details	
Original application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision notice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Documents and schedule	<input type="checkbox"/> Published <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
Decision made by ACAT	N/A
Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: no-reply@act.gov.au
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#)
Subject: Freedom of Information request
Date: Tuesday, 27 February 2024 10:31:07 PM

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please find online enquiry details below. Please ensure this enquiry is responded to within fourteen working days.

Your details

All fields are optional, however an email address OR full postal address must be provided for us to process your request. An email address and telephone contact number will assist us to contact you quickly if we need to discuss your request.

Title:
First Name:
Last Name:
Business/Organisation
Address:
Suburb:
Postcode:
State/Territory:
Phone/mobile:
Email address:

A large grey rectangular box redacting the user's personal details in the form fields.

Request for information

(Please provide as much detail as possible, for example subject matter and relevant dates, and also provide details of documents that you are not interested in.)

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 I want to access the following document/s (*required field):

Transport Ministers Report in 2016 or 2017 explaining supported consultation process with taxi owners outlining justification of annual taxi lease fee rates dropping from \$20,000 per annum down to \$10,000 in 2018. Taxi leases crash to \$5,000 for ACT taxi owners in 2017.

I do not want to access the following documents in relation to my request::

Thank you.
Freedom of Information Coordinator



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – NOTICE OF DECISION

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 27 February 2024.

Specifically, you have sought access to the following information:

“Transport Ministers Report in 2016 or 2017 explaining supported consultation process with taxi owners outlining justification of annual taxi lease fee rates dropping from \$20,000 per annum down to \$10,000 in 2018. Taxi leases crash to \$5,000 for ACT taxi owners in 2017.”

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the CMTEDD Director-General under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 days. Therefore, a decision is due by **12 April 2024**.

Decision on access

I have decided to refuse to deal with your application in full under section 35(1)(c) of the Act. I have decided to refuse to deal with your application under section 43(1)(d) of the Act because the information you have requested is already available to you. The information is already available to you as under section 45(a) of the Act the information is publicly available.

Statement of Reasons

In accordance with section 55 of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below. In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act
- the information that falls within the scope of your request
- publicly available information.

As the decision maker, under section 55 of the Act, provide I am required to provide the following:

*“(a) the ground under section 43 (1) for the refusal;
(b) the findings on any material questions of fact referring to the evidence or other material on which the findings were based;
(c) if the ground is that the government information is already available to the applicant—how the applicant can access the information;
(d) that the applicant is not entitled to a refund of any application fee paid if the respondent refuses to deal with the application.”*

This notice sets out the evidence for my decision and details on how you can access the publicly available information.

Scope of your request and Searches

Searches for records have been undertaken using your scope of requested information, including searches for records in the context provided by you. This includes, but not limited to, searches relating to ‘report’ and ‘taxi’. We note that your date range included 2016 and 2017.

Searches of CMTEDD records have identified two documents within the scope of your request.

Enquiries were also undertaken with other ACT Government Directorates likely to hold records related to your request. Searches identified that relevant documents being identified as already available to you as the information is already publicly available.

Publicly available information

The records identified as relevant to your application are detailed below. Additional information is also publicly available on CMTEDD’s YourSay website that provides contextual information for the reports, including discussion papers. This information can be found published at the following website locations:

<https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/on-demand-transport-reform>

<https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/on-demand-transport-reform/evaluation>

The two reports identified as the records requested can be accessed via the above websites. These reports, and the specific website locations of these published documents, are:

1. The Centre for International Economics report - *Impacts on taxi stakeholders of the ACT on-demand transport reforms* – 15 November 2017.
 - https://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/1256563/ACT-on-demand-transport-reforms-Briefings-prepared-for-the-ACT-Government-by-the-Centre-for-International-Economics-Impacts-on-taxi-stakeholders-Issues-to-consider.pdf
 - https://hdp-au-prod-app-act-yoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/4515/3723/1495/CIE_-_Impacts_on_taxi_stakeholders_of_the_ACT_on-demand_transport_reforms.pdf
2. The Centre for International Economics report - *The impacts of ACT on demand transport reforms* – 15 November 2017.

- <https://hdp-au-prod-app-act-yoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/9815/3723/1495/CIE - The impacts of ACT on-demand transport reforms.pdf>

Additional information

Whilst this report is outside the requested date range and not a Transport Minister report, it may be of interest to you. This is called '*Evaluation Of The 2015 Innovation Reforms To The On-Demand Transport Industry In The Act (Including Taxis, Hire Cars And Rideshare) Summary Report*', which is publicly available here:

- <https://hdp-au-prod-app-act-yoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/1215/3723/1496/ODTI Evaluation - Summary Report.pdf>

This report can also be accessed on the YourSay website, on the weblinks as provided above.

Therefore, I find that information you have requested as per the scope of your request is publicly available, as it is published on websites, and therefore I refuse to deal with your application on this basis.

Charges

Processing charges are not applicable for this request as no documents are being released to you.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a [disclosure log](#).

Your original access application and my decision will be published on the CMTEDD disclosure log. Your personal contact details will not be published.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

We recommend using this form [Applying for an Ombudsman Review](#) to ensure you provide all of the required information. Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact the Information Access Team by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Hotham
Information Officer
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

12 April 2024