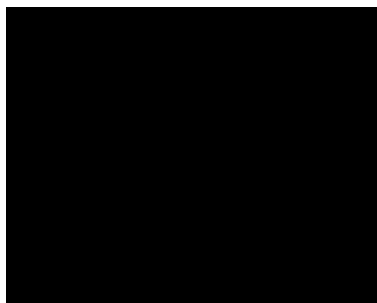




ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDD 88/16-17



Freedom of Information Request – grant funding from CMTEDD available to support tourism

I refer to your access request under section 14 of the ACT *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 26 June 2017.

In your request you sought "...documents listing all entities, organisations and individuals which requested grant funding from CMTEDD available to support tourism in the ACT. I also write to request that documents providing the result of these applications are provided."

The Directorate wrote to you on 5 July seeking to confirm the Directorate's understanding of the scope of your request, being grant funding provided by VisitCanberra relevant to the financial year 2016-17. The Directorate has now processed your request according to the stated scope interpretation.

Decision Maker

I am authorised under section 22 of the Act and have been approved to make decisions on access to documents and liability for charges.

Identification of documents

VisitCanberra manages two funds/programs to support tourism in the ACT through which external parties can apply for funding. These funds are:

Tourism Marketing Partnership Program – a co-operative marketing dollar-for-dollar matched funding initiative to provide positive and measurable economic outcomes for the ACT tourism industry through vibrant, cooperative marketing campaigns that have the capacity to drive interstate and international overnight visitation and yield.

Special Events Fund – investing in major events, dollar-for-dollar basis funding to be spent on interstate and/or international marketing that provide the opportunity to increase promotion of the ACT and Canberra region with a view to drive increased interstate and international visitation and generate positive economic outcomes.

The information sought in your request is retained in a database and not in discrete documents. In order to provide the information you seek, and in accordance with section 16(c) of the Act, the Directorate has created two documents that list “...all entities, organisations and individuals which requested grant funding...” and “...the result of these applications”. These created documents are listed on the attached schedule and provided with this letter.

Decision on access

I have decided to release to you the details of all successful funding applicants. I have decided, under section 43(c)(i) of the Act, not to identify organisations who sought funding from VisitCanberra but were either unsuccessful or withdrew their application. I consider that it is reasonable to expect that disclosure of this information could adversely affect the business, commercial and financial affairs of these organisations by prejudicing the outcome of any future grant applications or funding opportunities.

Exemption Claimed - Documents relating to Business Affairs

Section 43 of the Act provides:

- (1) *A document is an exempt document if its disclosure under this Act would disclose—*
 - (a) *trade secrets; or*
 - (b) *any other information having a commercial value that would be, or could reasonably be expected to be, destroyed or diminished if the information were disclosed; or*
 - (c) *information (other than trade secrets or information to which paragraph (b) applies) concerning a person in respect of his or her business or professional affairs or concerning the business, commercial or financial affairs of an organisation or undertaking, being information—*
 - (i) *the disclosure of which would, or could reasonably be expected to, unreasonably affect that person adversely in respect of his or her lawful business or professional affairs or that organisation or undertaking in respect of its lawful business, commercial or financial affairs.*
 - (ii) *the disclosure of which under this Act could reasonably be expected to prejudice the future supply of information to the Territory or an agency for the purpose of the administration of a law or the administration of matters administered by an agency.*

Your right of review

Internal Review

Under section 59 (1) of the Act, you may request a review of my decision. You have 28 days after receiving notice of my decision to ask for a review, or a further period as allowed by the Director-General.

Your request should be addressed to:

Director-General
c/o Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au

Complaints to the Ombudsman

Under section 54 of the Act, you may complain to the Ombudsman about administrative matters relating to the processing of your FOI request. There is no fee for making a complaint. The Ombudsman will conduct an independent investigation into your complaint.

You can contact the Ombudsman either by telephone on 1300 362 072 or in writing to:

The Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

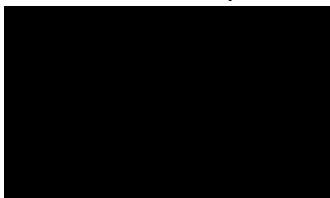
Online FOI Policy

I have assessed your request for information under the ACT Government's Online FOI Publication Policy and have determined that my decision on your request will be published online. Personal information or business information will not be made available under this policy. A copy of the policy, with details about what information may be published on the Internet, is available online at:

http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/250333/FOI_Web_Release_Policy_-_Final.pdf

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you in further detail and answer any questions you may have. Please contact me on (02) 6205 0012.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hill
Executive Director
Visit Canberra

25 July 2017