



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet

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

FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2023-047

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	Published
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	N/A
6. Processing time (in working days)	17
7. Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
8. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
9. Decision made by ACAT	N/A
10. Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A



ACT
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Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI2023-047

[REDACTED]

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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 19 February 2023. Your request specified:

“This is a request for information from Minister Vassarotti’s office to obtain data on the number of meetings held between the office and the Master Builder Association and Housing Industry Association during the physical year 2022. The request is comprehensive, covering all types of meetings, including face-to-face, phone, and virtual meetings conducted through online technologies like MS Team, ZOOM, and Webex.”

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the 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 was required to provide a decision on your access application by 20 March 2023.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant information, and the information contained in **Attachment A**, falls within the scope of your request. I have decided to grant full access to this information.

I also note that in accordance with section 23 of the Act, under Open Access that the following type of information is required to be made publicly available:

open access information, of a Minister -

(iii) a copy of the Minister’s diary sets out all meetings, events and functions attended by the Minister that relates to the Minister’s responsibilities.

You can access this by using the following link:

<https://www.act.gov.au/open-access/ministers-information/ministerial-diaries-disclosure>

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act
- the content of the documents that fall within the scope of your request.

Exemption claimed

As a decision maker, I am required to determine whether the information within scope is in the public interest to release. To make this decision, I am required to:

- assess whether the information would be contrary to public interest to disclose as per Schedule 1 of the Act
- perform the public interest test as set out in section 17 of the Act by balancing the factors favouring disclosure and factors favouring non-disclosure in Schedule 2

The public interest information under schedule 2 of the Act

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interests lies. As part of this process I must consider factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure.

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure in the public interest:

(a) disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:

- (i) promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability;*
- (ii) contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest.*

I have put substantial weight on the above factors favouring disclosure. The release of this information can reasonably be expected to provide information that will inform the community and increase their understanding of government operations.

I did not identify any factor favouring non-release and have decided to release this information to you in full.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are not applicable for this request as the material being released to you is less than 50 pages.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. A description of the access application and my decision will be

published in the CMTEDD disclosure log after 3 days after the date of my decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

You may view CMTEDD disclosure log at <https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi>.

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 in CMTEDD disclosure log, 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

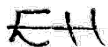
ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

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
Level 4, 1 Moore St
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 me by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



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

15 March 2023

Master Builders Association

MEETING DATE	MEETING
01-Apr-22	Phone call
07-Apr-22	Event - 2020 and 2021 Master Builders ACT Annual Dinner
17-May-22	Event - Owners Corporation Network ACT Public Forum on Combustible Cladding
25-May-22	Meeting - with Master Builders Association ACT
07-Aug-22	Briefing - Ginninderry: Strathnairn Charity House Update
09-Sep-22	Event - 2022 Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards
21-Sep-22	Event - Scope 3 Business Panel
15-Sep-22	Meeting - Planning and Construction Industry Chief Executive Reference Group
15-Nov-22	Event - Design Canberra Festival: Canberra Low Carbon Housing Challenge
24-Nov-22	Meeting - Planning and Construction Industry Chief Executive Reference Group

Housing Industry Association ACT

MEETING DATE	MEETING
29-Jun-22	Event - WorkSafe ACT Residential Construction Strategy Launch
05-Aug-22	Event Housing Industry Association ACT 50th Anniversary Dinner
22-Aug-22	Meeting
29-Sep-22	Event - Scope 3 Business Panel
24-Nov-22	Meeting - Planning and Construction Industry Chief Executive Reference Group