



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDD 22/16-17



Dear 

Freedom of Information Request – expenditure on ministerial and ministerial staff hospitality

I refer to your email received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 19 September 2016, which seeks access to documents held by the Directorate. Your request has been registered and processed as submitted under section 14 of the ACT *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the Act).

Please note that the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* referred to in your request does not commence until 1 July 2017.

In your request you are specifically seeking the following:

“...a copy of all expenditure on ministerial and ministerial staff hospitality in your portfolio for Monday 5 September to Friday 9 September 2016 (inclusive). For the definition of hospitality expenditure under this request please use the meaning from the ACT Freedom of Information Act 2016.”

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.

Charges

I have decided under section 29 of the Act not to impose processing charges for this request.

Identification of documents and decision on access

The *Freedom of Information Act 2016* does not define hospitality, and as noted above does not commence until 1 July 2017.

For the purposes of processing your request, I have defined expenditure on ministerial hospitality to be expenditure associated with the provision food, refreshments, alcohol or other function or event costs, paid through the ACT Executive budget.

Officers of CMTEDD have conducted searches of paper and electronic files for documents in the possession of the Directorate that may relate to your request. No relevant documents have been identified for the timeframe specified in your request. From the

advice I have received from Directorate staff, I am satisfied that no documents relevant to your Freedom of Information (FOI) request are held by CMTEDD.

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
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601

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 Freedom of Information 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

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact me on (02) 6205 0035.

Yours sincerely



Anita Perkins
Director
Communications

30 September 2016