



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 2022-067 and 2022-068

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	N/A
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	N/A
6. Processing time (in working days)	20
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

From: no-reply@act.gov.au
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#)
Subject: Freedom of Information request
Date: Wednesday, 2 March 2022 7:30:03 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.

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:

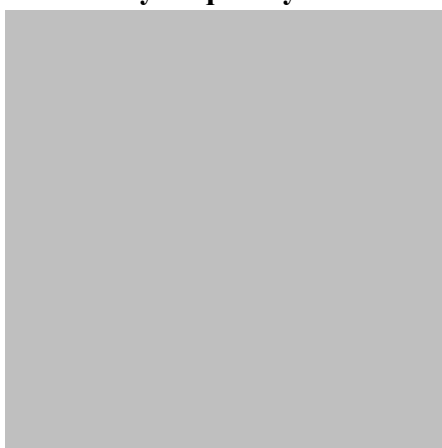
Suburb:

Postcode:

State/Territory:

Phone/mobile:

Email address:

A large grey rectangular area redacting the user's contact details.

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.)

I am seeking documents held by either Access Canberra or the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. **BACKGROUND** Prior to 2018, the registration of individual, sole operator sex workers was a legal requirement under the Prostitution Act 1992 (ACT). This register was administered by Access Canberra. **DISCLOURE 1** In 2011, during a Public Hearing for the 2010 Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety's Inquiry into the Prostitution Act (the Inquiry), the Chief Police Office (CPO) on behalf of ACT Policing provided evidence on the number of sex work sole operators. During this hearing, the CPO stated that the number of registered sole operators was '14 or 15 at this time'. This hearing occurred in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY on 23/03/2011. **DISCLOURE 2** On 31/07/2018, similar information (the '14' figure) was again released in the Legislative Assembly as part of the debate of the Prostitution Amendment Bill 2018 (the Bill). See hansard of speech made by Shane Rattenbury on 31/07/2018, page 2444 of hansard. **DISCLOURE 3** On 07/06/2018, Katie

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

Burgess wrote an article in the Canberra Times titled, 'Govt says sex work decriminalised, but industry wants more reform'. A link to the article is <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6016450/govt-says-sex-work-decriminalised-but-industry-wants-more-reform/> In this article, Ms Burgess refers to comments from ACT Justice Minister Shane Rattenbury, in which the Minister reveals the fact that there were 14 registered sex workers in the ACT. The exact quote is, 'Mr Rattenbury said the registration scheme had been a failure, with only 14 sex workers on the books.' I am seeking documents in relation to any complaints or concerns raised in response to one or more of the three disclosures of the '14' figure referred to above. I am seeking documents about complaints, but also documents about correspondence or communications received that are not complaints. Any documents relating to concerns raised, or feedback of a negative nature about these disclosures are part of this request. I am seeking complaints or feedback authored by either individuals or individuals acting on behalf of organisations. The timeframe for this request is 23/03/2011 – 2/03/2022. I am not seeking the personal details, including the names, of people. I am seeking the names of organisations which individuals are affiliated with, where applicable. I am willing to accept partial access to these documents. I am also willing to accept edited copies of these documents. I wish to have duplicate documents removed from my request (i.e. only receive one copy of each document if more than one copy exists).

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

Thank you.
Freedom of Information Coordinator



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2022-067
and CMTEDDFOI 2022-068



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 2 March 2022.

Specifically, you are seeking: *"...documents in relation to any complaints or concerns raised in response to one or more of the three disclosures of the '14' figure referred to above. I am seeking documents about complaints, but also documents about correspondence or communications received that are not complaints. Any documents relating to concerns raised, or feedback of a negative nature about these disclosures are part of this request. I am seeking complaints or feedback authored by either individuals or individuals acting on behalf of organisations. The timeframe for this request is 23/03/2011 – 2/03/2022. I am seeking the names of organisations which individuals are affiliated with, where applicable."*

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 31 March 2022.

Decision on access

A search of CMTEDD records has failed to identify any documentation in relation to your request. The search was conducted using the information you provided.

I am satisfied that appropriate searches were completed and that no documents relevant to your request are held by CMTEDD.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are not applicable for this request because no pages 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 to you in

response to your access application will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log after 3 days from 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 date of my decision, 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



Matt Leonard
Information Officer
Information Access Team
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

31 March 2022