

# **Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet**

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

# FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2022-379

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)	82
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

Good afternoon,

I write to request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* a copy of the ministerial briefs listed below (ref. attached document CMTEDDFOI 2022-308), excluding attachments and duplicate documents.

Record Number	Subject Line
CMTEDD2022/1854	Cleaning, security and waste management service provision
CMTEDD2022/2596	Blue Gum School complaint regarding their request to extend their lease
CMTEDD2022/2609	Gungahlin Leisure Centre 50-metre pool rectification works – Program of works
CMTEDD2022/2625	Canberra Olympic pool closure for boiler installation
CMTEDD2022/2530	Amp it Up! Round 2 funding recommendations
CMTEDD2022/2430	Referral to the Independent Reviewer for the YourSay Community Panel – Returning to life as normal survey
CMTEDD2022/2851	Referral to the Independent Review for the YourSay Community Panel – ACT Major Events Survey
CMTEDD2022/2916	Changes to strategic objectives and indicators and accountability indicators in the 2022-23 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate Budget Statement
CMTEDD2022/2917	Changes to strategic objectives and indicators and accountability indicators in the 2022-23 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate Budget Statement
CMTEDD2022/2918	Changes to strategic objectives and indicators and accountability indicators in the 2022-23 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate Budget Statement
CMTEDD2022/2919	Changes to strategic objectives and indicators and accountability indicators in the 2022-23 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate Budget Statement
CMTEDD2022/2920	Changes to strategic objectives and indicators and accountability indicators in the 2022-23 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate Budget Statement
CMTEDD2022/2687	CMTEDD staff survey results
CMTEDD2022/2845	Human Resource Information Management Solution (HRIMS) Program Update – June 2022
CMTEDD2022/2936	2022-23 Budget Initiative Descriptions for Publication
CMTEDD2022/2394	Electricity determination two – reference price for 2022-23
CMTEDD2022/2428	ACT Audit Office Performance Report – ACT Taxi Subsidy Scheme – Final Proposed Report (Final Report)

CMTEDD2022/2102	Act of Grace Request	
CMTEDD2022/1918	Lease Variation Charge (LVC) waiver request – Block 6 Section 79 Giralang (the site)	
CMTEDD2022/2758	Inquiry into housing and rental affordability – vacant residential dwellings	
CMTEDD2022/2874	Census 2021 results	
CMTEDD2022/2644	Government Response to Recommendations from Standing Committees – Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-21	
CMTEDD2022/2645	Government Response to Recommendations from Standing Committees – Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-21	
CMTEDD2022/2104	Travel Request for Singapore – August 2022	
CMTEDD2022/2309	Floriade and Enlighten Strategic Plans 2023-2027	
CMTEDD2022/2403	Opportunity to host national and world cycling events in Canberra	
CMTEDD2022/2712	National and International Visitor Survey (NVS and IVS) results for the year ending March 2022	
CMTEDD2022/2970	Travel Request for Singapore Trade Mission – August 2022	
CMTEDD2022/2253	Canberra Economic Advisory Group Consideration Group Report	
CMTEDD2022/2318	Travel Request for Singapore – August 2022	
CMTEDD2022/2714	Ministerial Correspondence – Barr – Sched 2.2(a)(ii) – Suggestion to expand the ACT Sustainable Household Scheme	
CMTEDD2022/2794	2022 Capital of Equality LGBTIQ+ Grants Program – Funding Outcomes	
CMTEDD2022/2878	Parkwood Performance Audit – Final Report	
CMTEDD2022/2601	Procurement for Provision of CIT Futures 2025 and Preceding Contracts – Detailed Background	
CMTEDD2022/2525	Ministerial Information Brief – Steel – Procurement for Provision of CIT Futures 2025 and Preceding Contracts	
CMTEDD2022/2925	Ministerial Brief – Steel – Cabinet Number Request – Government Response to Standing Committee on Public Accounts – Inquiry into Auditor-General's Report 7/2021 Procurement Exemptions and Value for Money	
CMTEDD2022/2693	Letter to incoming Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) Board Chair	
CMTEDD2022/2629	CBR Brave – 2021-22 Performance Sponsorship Program funding	
CMTEDD2022/2683	Belconnen Basketball Stadium Proposa	
CMTEDD2022/2031	Revenue – 2022-23 Tax Setting Disallowable Instruments	
CMTEDD2022/2981	Correspondence with the ACT Heritage Council	
CMTEDD2022/2334	Strategy and Transformation Office Insourcing Projects Proposal	
CMTEDD2022/2787	Salary Allocations for 2022-2023 – Non-Executive MLAs and The Speaker	
CMTEDD2022/1693	Work Health and Safety Codes of Practice: adoption of updated model codes of practice	
CMTEDD2022/1804	Tranche One Silica Reforms: Silica Dust Awareness Mandatory Training Declaration	
CMTEDD2022/2545	Report 15: Portable long service leave COVID-19 amendments – ACT Legislative Assembly reporting for April to June 2022	
22/64904	22/64904 – Meeting Brief – Cheyne – Australian Hotels Association – 20 June 2022	
22/73640	Week Ending 20220617	
22/76632	Week Ending 20220624	
22/81318	Week Ending 20220701	

Should you require any further information or clarification about my request, please contact my office on

Thank you



Our ref: CMTEDDFOI2022-379



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (FOI Act) received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 30 November 2022, in which you sought access to Ministerial Briefs.

Specifically, you sought access to 50 Ministerial briefs for the period June 2022 – July 2022. These Ministerial briefs had been identified in a previous access request. Please see **Attachment A** for the original scope.

# 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 21 March 2023. On 16 March 2023, an Information Officer from CMTEDD wrote to you advising of their intention to refuse to deal with this application.

# Consultation

Under section 46(1)(a) of the Act, before refusing to deal with your application, CMTEDD was required to provide you, in writing, the grounds for the refusal, and (b) provide you with a reasonable opportunity to consult with CMTEDD and provide any additional information that is relevant. CMTEDD was also required to provide any information that may assist you in making an application in a form that would remove the grounds for refusal.

In accordance with section 46(1)(b), the consultation period as outlined in the Act is 10 days from the day after the notice was provided to you, meaning the consultation period has now expired. I note that our office has not had a response from your office.

I am satisfied that our office has made all reasonable attempts to assist you in making an application that would remove the grounds for refusal.

# **Decision on access**

I have decided to refuse to deal with your application, under section 43 (1)(a) of the FOI Act, because:

- dealing with the application would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources pursuant to section 44(1)(a) of the Act, and
- the resources required does not justify the public interest, refer section 44(1)(b) of the Act.

This request currently still requires a disproportionately large portion of available FOI resources to process. I also note that there has already been a significant amount of work undertaken in attempting to process this application. Whilst we have been appreciative of your agreement to extend the timeframes for responding, this workload has proven to be extremely challenging due to engaging with multiple business areas of CMTEDD on diverse subject matters with no cohesive issue or theme. This means that each brief must be examined individually, and the public interest test applied separately to each brief. This is akin to undertaking 50 separate applications.

I am mindful that we have received other requests for 82 briefs (CMTEDD2022-275), 113 briefs (CMTEDD2022-309) and 35 briefs (CMTEDD 2023-025, 027, 032), with this request for 50 briefs bringing the total to 245 briefs.

I note that based previous experience, we would expect, on average, one third party consultation for every three briefs. With the above combined requests in mind, it is reasonable to estimate consulting with around 82 third parties.

For this decision, I note the recent Ombudsman decision relating to a review of decision of CMTEDD2022-206, which has now been published on the Ombudsman's website <u>Decision-AFOI.RR.22.10020.pdf (act.gov.au)</u>.

Balancing the public interest that would be advanced by processing this request in its current form, I have concluded that it does not justify the resources required to complete it.

# Charges

Processing charges are not applicable for this request because no information is 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. A description of the access application and my decision will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log after **5 April 2023**. Your personal contact details

will not be published. You may view CMTEDD disclosure log at <a href="https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi/disclosure-log-2023">https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi/disclosure-log-2023</a>

#### **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:

The ACT Ombudsman GPO Box 442 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Via email: <u>actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au</u>

# 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:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal Level 4, 1 Moore St GPO Box 370 Canberra City ACT 2601 Telephone: (02) 6207 1740 <u>http://www.acat.act.gov.au/</u>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact CMTEDD FOI team on 6207 7754 or email <u>CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely,

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Katharine Stuart Information Officer Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

31 March 2023