



ACT
Government

Environment and
Sustainable Development

Phone: 6207 1923
Reference: 14/06818

Freedom of Information Request – Woden Mawson Master Plan Background Documents

I refer to your application under section 14 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the Act), received by the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (ESDD) on 1 April 2014, in which you requested the following documents:

"Please provide copies of four consultant reports as to the background for the Woden/Mawson Master plans. Also the report by the expert assessment panel which was chaired by the ACT Government architect Alistair Swayn.

Reports:

- Woden Community Sport and Recreation facilities Study (Buckley Vann)*
- Pedestrian and cycle study (Cardno)*
- Community safety assessment report(Bells Planning)*
- (another report not sure of the name related to Mawson Master plan)*
- Expert panel report on Woden/mawson Master plan"*

I am an officer authorised to make a decision in respect of a request for information, under section 22 of the Act.

Schedule detailing decisions

Please refer to the attached schedule that lists decisions regarding access to all documents, which have been identified as relevant to your request. The terms used on the schedule are either 'Partial release' or 'Exempt'. Where an exemption is made, a reference will be made on the schedule to the relevant section or combinations of sections of legislation that apply to the decision.

Decision

The Directorate has identified seven documents in its possession that meet the scope of your request, as identified in the schedule attached to this letter.

Under the Act, documents may be partially exempt/exempt or provided to applicants with deletions and I have decided to exempt some documents under sections 36 (Internal working documents), 37 (Documents affecting enforcement of the law and protection of public safety), 39 (Documents relating to the financial and property interests of the Territory), 41 (Documents relating to personal privacy), 43 (Documents relating to business affairs), 45 (Material obtained in confidence).

Internal working documents

Section 36 allows the exemption of internal working documents when disclosure under the FOI Act would not be in the public interest.

Documents affecting enforcement of the law and public safety

Parts of some documents contain references to crime statistics and police operations. Release of this information could impact upon ongoing investigations.

Documents affecting financial or property interests of the Territory

Some documents contain financial information relating to ACT Government assets and proposed developments which are budget in confidence.

Personal Privacy

A number of documents contain the personal information relating to community members and I believe that to release the information contained in these documents to you would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy on the people concerned.

Business affairs

Some documents contain the financial information of an organisation.

I consider that the release of this information would diminish the commercial value of the information and compromise the organisation's commercial competitiveness.

Material obtained in confidence

During community consultation, some material was identified to the consultants as requiring ongoing confidentiality and cannot be released.

Please refer to the attached schedule for further details of the exemption categories.

Review rights

My decision is appealable under the Act. This means that if you are dissatisfied with this outcome you have a right to seek a review under section 59 of the Act. This right of review extends to a review of the adequacy of the search for documents undertaken by ESDD. If you wish to seek a review you should write to:

The Director-General
Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate
GPO Box 1908
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: ESDDFOI@act.gov.au

You have 28 days from the date of this letter to seek a review of the outcome or such other period as the Director-General permits.

Under section 54 of the Act, if you are concerned about the processing of your request or related administrative matters, you may complain to the Ombudsman, who may conduct an independent investigation into your complaint. There is no fee for this, and the contact details are as follows:

The Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

Online FOI Publication Policy

Please be aware that under the ACT Government's "*Online FOI Publication Policy*" (the Policy), information released to you under this Freedom of Information Application may be released on the internet.

Personal information or business affairs information will not be made available under the policy. If you think the content of your request would contain such information, please inform our contact officer immediately.

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/open_government/report/freedom_of_information_online

If you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact Heather Johnston on 6207 1941.

Yours sincerely



Ben Ponton
Deputy Director-General

14 May 2014