

Our ref: CMTEDD 66/16-17



Freedom of Information Request – Annual Report Hearings 2015-16 – Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs

I refer to your request, made under the ACT *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the Act), for access to documents relating Annual Report hearings for 2015-16. Your request was received by the Education Directorate on 17 March 2017 and partially transferred to Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 27 March 2017.

In your request, you are specifically seeking:

"... all documents and any information held by the Directorate relating to information provided by the Education and Training Directorate to the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development and the Director General of the Education and Training Directorate, in particular:

All reports, documents or information provided by the Directorate as briefing material in the Annual Reports hearings for the Committee on Education, Employment and Training;"

In a letter to Education dated 21 March 2017 you clarified that the Annual Reports hearing referred to in your request was held on 3 March 2017. You also confirmed that your request was intended to capture briefing material about training held by CMTEDD.

Decision Maker

I am authorised under section 22 of the Act 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

As noted above, CMTEDD accepted a partial transfer from Education on 27 March 2017 to address the training related component of your request.

As your original request was specific to the Education Directorate I have made an interpretation of your request in order to apply it to CMTEDD's role in the hearing. I have interpreted your request as seeking any briefing material (whether reports, general information or other documents) provided by CMTEDD to the Minister for Higher Education, Training and Research and the Director-General of Economic Development for the 2015-16 Annual Report hearings for the Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs. As the training portfolio was not on the agenda for the 3 March 2017 hearings I have interpreted your request to relate to the 9 March 2017 hearings which did cover training.

I have interpreted 'training related' broadly in order to provide a comprehensive response to your request. Identified briefing material includes documents provided to CMTEDD by the Canberra Institute of Technology and the ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority. I have also included briefings that are not primarily concerned with training but mention training related topics.

Decision on Access

I have decided to fully release the majority of documents to you and partially release the remainder. My reasons for not providing access to components of some documents are detailed in the following statement of reasons and in the attached schedule.

Some relevant documents contain information that falls outside the scope of your request and this information has not been released. The redacted material concerns agenda and action items that are unrelated to Annual Report hearings and briefing material that is unrelated to training. Any removal of information deemed to be out of scope is identified on the attached schedule.

Exemption claimed

Section 41 - Documents Affecting Personal Privacy

Refers to folios 8, 37

Section 41 of the Act provides:

 A document is an exempt document if its disclosure under this Act would involve the unreasonable disclosure of personal information about any person (including a deceased person).

I have exempted from release information that is likely to identify an individual. I am satisfied that this information falls within the exemption set out under section 41 of the Act and that release would involve an unreasonable disclosure of personal information. In making my decision to redact this information I have given consideration to the fact that removal does not affect understanding of the remaining content.

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
c/o Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au

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 Freedom of Information 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) 6207 4791.

