



Reference: BI4786984

FOI 162/18/19 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

“All hot issue briefs that have been created by defence, but have been withheld from public releases, since 21 July 2016.”

excluding personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeys numbers and mobile telephone numbers, contained in documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request. In addition, excluding duplicates of documents, and documents sent to and from you. Furthermore, Defence only considers final versions of documents.

FOI decision maker

2. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

3. I identified one document as matching the description of the request.

Decision

4. I have decided to:
- a. release one document in full; and
 - b. remove irrelevant material as referred to in the scope of the request in accordance with section 22(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act.

Material taken into account

5. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- a. the terms of the request;
 - b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
 - c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
 - d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).
6. The document search request for this inquiry was carried out by the Ministerial and Executive Coordination and Communication (MECC) Division. Search efforts consisted of document searches in the Defence’s electronic record management system (Objective) and physical files (including archived files).

Further Information

7. The applicant should be advised that this Hot Issue Brief (HIB) was not previously released on advice from the Assistant Secretary Information Management and Access Branch (ASIMA) because too much time had lapsed from when the HIB was raised after the fact. More specifically, it was not longer a recent issue.

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Date: 2018.11.14
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D. Richardson
Group Captain
Accredited Decision Maker
Air Force

November 2018