



Reference: Objective ID: [R34243171]

FOI 314/17/18 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the email of 27 April 2018, in which [REDACTED] sought an internal review under section 54 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) of the Accredited Decision Maker's decision dated 26 March 2018.

2. The applicant's request was for access to the following documents under the FOI Act:

"I request the following documents in relation to the Defence Major Projects Report (2016-17) released by the ANAO 23 January 2018.

Item 1 - A list of Audit Reports and Management Directed Tasks: FY 2016-17.

Item 2 – Documents that show as at 30 June 2017:

- 1 - How many service providers were employed by CASG?*
- 2 - Has CASG been able to remove the qualification required for their 2015-16 response?*
- 3 - How many APS personnel were employed by CASG?*
- 4 - How many uniformed Defence personnel were employed by CASG?*
- 5 - APS Salary Range 2017 per previous FOI 280/16/17*
- 6 - APS/SOS/SES headcount as at 30 June 2017*
- 7 - Army/Navy/RAAF headcount as at 30 June 2017*
- 8 - Uniformed personnel salary range as at 30 June 2017*

Item 3 - List of the Major Projects considered and reported by the DARC to the Defence Secretary and the CDF within the scope of Defence Major Projects 2016-17.

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."

Contentions

3. In his application, the applicant requested an internal review of the original decision. By email on 2 May 2018, the applicant confirmed with Defence that he is seeking access to material in a different format (as provided to him in FOI 280/16/17). This relates to documents matching Item 2 Serials 3, 4 and 8 which was released in full to the applicant.

4. The purpose of this statement of reasons is to provide the applicant with a fresh decision relating to the documents.

Reviewing officer

5. I am authorised to make this internal review decision under arrangements approved by the Secretary of Defence under section 23 of the FOI Act.

Documents subject to internal review

6. Taking into account the applicant's contentions at paragraph 3, the documents matching Item 2, Serials 3, 4 and 8 are subject to this internal review.


Material taken into account

7. In arriving at my decision, I had regard to:
- a. the scope of the applicant's request and subsequent internal review application;
 - b. the original decision;
 - c. the content of the documents subject to the internal review;
 - d. relevant provisions in the FOI Act;
 - e. the *Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act* (the Guidelines); and
 - f. advice from Defence People Group (DPG).

Internal review decision

8. DPG advised that they are unable to provide the information in a different format as this is how the material is produced in reports. Taking into account the advice from DPG, I have decided to uphold the original decision to release in full Item 2, Serials 3, 4 and 8. I have not provided another copy of the documents as the applicant has already been provided this in the original decision.

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Mr Jarrod Howard
Authorised Decision Maker – Internal Review