



Dear 

**Freedom of information request: 18/28613; Declared conflict of interest - CRA**

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) dated 27 September 2018, in which you sought access to information relating to the City Renewal Authority (herein after referred to as the Authority) executive and board members:

*"...any and all documents that include the City Renewal Authority's register, or registers, of the Authority's board members' and executive staff members' potential conflicts of interest, unredacted. I also seek copies of all Authority internal board meeting agendas and minutes for meetings held since establishment of the Authority in the July 1, 2017 (not what appear to be summaries of said documents already made public on the Authority's website..."*

On 11 October 2018 you agreed to refine the scope of the request to:

*"...final documents not duplicate's and associated emails, but on the condition, they are the internal version, not what appear to be summaries of minutes as published on the CRA website..."*

I am an Information Officer appointed by under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

The Authority is required to provide a decision on your access application (the application) by 16 November 2018.

**Intention to refuse**

I write to inform you that I intend to refuse to deal with the application in its current form under section 43 (1) (a) because to do so would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of Authority resources, including the resources necessary to undertake third party consultation.

The application does not identify a specific Authority Board member's or executive staff member's declaration of conflict of interest, and you have also requested unredacted documents.



Section 38 of the Act states that I must take reasonable steps to consult with relevant third parties prior to deciding on access to documents. An initial assessment of documents relevant to the scope of the application has identified extensive information relating to a large number of individual third parties, including the personal information of members of the public and information relating to business affairs. Given the number of documents and the number of people that need to be consulted, I believe this process would require a significant expenditure of staff resources in a small agency.

I have deliberated on the benefit and detriment reasonably expected to result by the diversion of resources required to respond to the application. It is my view that the public benefit in the Authority expending the resources necessary to undertake extensive third-party consultation, and assessment of third-party responses, does not outweigh the detriment caused to the public by impeding the ability of the Authority to undertake its primary business functions.

Section 46 of the Act provides you a consultation period of 10 working days starting the day after this letter is provided to you. You may consult with the Freedom of Information team during this period to negotiate a suitably revised scope. If following consultation, you submit an amended application, the original application is taken to have been made on the date the amended application is received.

If you have any queries concerning the processing of your request, or would like further information, please contact the EPSDD Customer Service on (02) 6207 1923 and ask for the Freedom of Information team, or email to [EPSDFOI@act.gov.au](mailto:EPSDFOI@act.gov.au)

Yours sincerely, 

Malcolm Snow  
Information Officer  
16 November 2018