



ACT
Government

Environment, Planning and
Sustainable Development

Phone: (02) 6207 1923

Reference: [23/53045]

Dear [REDACTED]

Decision on Freedom of Information Access Application 23/53045

I refer to your application made under section 30 of the Freedom of Information Act 2016 (the Act) received by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) on 10 May 2023. Specifically, you are seeking:

“a summary of ACT Government expenditure on consultancy contracts (feasibility studies, design references, business cases, etc) for the following:

1. *The City to the Lake project announced in 2013;*
2. *A Civic stadium (including comparisons of potential locations for a new stadium);*
3. *A new convention centre (including the Australia Forum plan from 2015).”*

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

As agreed, EPSDD is required to make a decision on your access application by 20 June 2023.

Decision Searches

A search of records held by EPSDD and the City Renewal Authority (CRA) has failed to identify a summary of the expenditure on consultancy contracts in relation to the City to Lake project, a Civic stadium or a new convention centre. A copy of your application has been sent to the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate to see if they hold any documents relevant to your application. They will contact you directly.

I note that details of ACT Government Tenders are publicly available on Tenders ACT <https://www.tenders.act.gov.au/tender/search>. ACT Government Contracts are also publicly available on the ACT Government Contracts Register. The Register records contracts with suppliers of goods, services and works, with a value of \$25,000 or more. For more information, please visit: <https://www.procurement.act.gov.au/registers/contracts-register>.

The Land Development Agency annual reports included a section on Government contracting. For further information please see <https://suburbanland.act.gov.au/en/archived-publications-and-reports>.

Decision on Access

Searches conducted have not identified any information specific to the scope of your application. I am satisfied that a thorough process was completed in an effort to locate the information you are seeking. I have therefore decided, under section 35(1)(b) of the Act, that no documents are held by EPSDD that are relevant to your application.

Online Publication

Under section 28 of the Act, EPSDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Your original access application and this decision released will be published in the EPSDD disclosure log no earlier than three days after you receive this decision.

Your personal contact details will not be published. You may view the EPSDD disclosure log at:

<https://www.environment.act.gov.au/about-us/access-government-information/disclosurelog>

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in the disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman. For more information and the application form for Ombudsman review, please visit:

https://www.ombudsman.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0026/79190/Apply-for-Ombudsman-review.pdf

Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision.

Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6207 1740

<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely



Craig Simmons

Information Officer

Chief Operating Officer

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

19 June 2023