



ACT
Government

Environment, Planning and
Sustainable Development

Phone: 6207 1923
Reference: 18/00888

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of information request: EPSDD sexual harassment complaints

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) on 24 January 2018, in which you sought access to EPSDD sexual harassment complaints.

Specifically, you are seeking:

*“all documents created in the reporting, investigating and/or disciplinary action taken in relation to sexual harassment complaints made against **any employee** in the ACT Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD). I seek these documents created within the period beginning **January 1 2014** and ending January 11 2018.*

Please also provide figures for the number of complaints relating to sexual harassment received by the directorate during that timeframe.”

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

EPSDD is required to provide a decision on your access application by 22 February 2018.

Decision on access

A thorough search has been conducted and no documents were found to be in the possession of EPSDD. The search was conducted for documents relating to sexual harassment complaints made over the period 1 January 2014 to 11 January 2018.

Please note that while there is no documented record of such a complaint being made, there is a possibility that an EPSDD staff member could discuss their concern with a Respect, Equity and Diversity (RED) Contact Officer from any directorate or indeed, make a complaint directly with the Professional Standards Unit in the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

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 EPSDD's disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: ombudsman@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/>

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

Yours sincerely


Chris Reynolds
Information Officer
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

13 February 2018