
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 15 February 2021 7:59 PM
To: EPSDFOI
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information request - Managing Buildings Better / Strata Reform Project (FOI 21/09059)

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Dear Angelina,

Thank you very much for your response.

1) I am happy to confine this aspect of the request to documents from the time of formation of the Unit Titles Reform Consultative Group in 2019 onwards.

2) I'll be more specific and confine this aspect of the request to any documents discussing "tenant rights of attendance at general meetings or election of tenant representatives", to the extent that this covers any documents not already included in the other points.

Thanks for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

FOI 21/09059 – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION

I refer to your application (below) received by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) on 31 January 2021, in which you sought access to information under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 (the Act).

Specifically you are seeking:

“the following documents relating to the Government's Managing Buildings Better / Strata Reform Project:

- Public consultation submissions (excluding personal identifying details of individuals)
- Records and reports of consultations with the industry and community consultative group
- Reports containing overall recommendations of the reform project

- Any documents discussing tenant participation in owners' corporations / executive committees (such as tenant rights of attendance at general meetings or election of tenant representatives)”

In relation to your application we require some clarification in order to proceed with your request. Please provide advice on the following:

1. Public consultation submissions (excluding personal identifying details of individuals) and Records and reports of consultations with the industry and community consultative group

The project commenced in 2016 with the project manager conducting a series of workshops. In 2017 a reference group was formed with key industry stakeholders, to raise and discuss issues. In 2019 the group was recommenced as the Unit Titles Reform Consultative Group. Unit Titles Reform Consultative Group in early 2019 to progress the reforms.

Are you seeking documents from the time of formation of the Unit Titles Reform Consultative Group in 2019?

2. Any documents discussing tenant participation in owners' corporations

/ executive committees (such as tenant rights of attendance at general meetings or election of tenant representatives

The aim of the stage 1 unit title reforms is to make it easier and fairer for unit owners, tenants, managers etc to live and work together, therefore many of the reforms will assist tenants to be more informed and engaged. One example is advising prospective tenants if the units plan has a pet friendly rule. The explanatory statement for the Unit Title

Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

([1]https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/es/db_61341/20191128-72737/PDF/db_61341.PDF)

and the Managing Buildings Better web page

([2]<https://www.planning.act.gov.au/build-buy-renovate/reviews-and-reforms/managing-buildings-better/initial-package-of-reforms>)

provide for further information on how the reforms benefit tenants. Please advise if you are seeking any information other than what is publicly available via these links.

Please note: under section 34 of the Act, processing of your application will be suspended until we receive further information relating to the scope of your application. If you fail to provide a response within 3 months from the date of this email your application will be considered closed.

Decision

In accordance with section 40 of the FOI Act, the standard processing time

requires that a decision on access to documents must be made within 20 working days of receipt, being on or by 1 March 2021. The decision date will be amended depending on the receipt of your response.

Please note: Freedom of Information application timeframes are likely to be impacted by COVID-19, and whilst we are continuing to work to meet statutory timeframes, this may not be possible in all instances. We are committed to working with you and responding as best we can under the current circumstances. We thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Third Party Consultation

In processing your application, consultation with relevant third parties may be required. In line with the Act, if third party consultation is required, the due date may be extended by 15 working days. If this is the case, you will be notified and advised of a revised decision due date.

Charges

Please be aware that processing charges may be payable in relation to your request. Should you be liable to pay a processing charge, you will be notified in writing of the preliminary assessment and given an opportunity to make an application that the charge should be remitted in whole or in part. Alternatively, you may wish to revise the scope of your request. A specific request of narrow scope may reduce the time required to process

your application and the likelihood of fees applying.

Open Access Information

The Act requires that details regarding your request such as your application, decision notices, and information released to you, must be recorded in the agency disclosure log and made publicly available; the disclosure log is published on

[3]<http://www.environment.act.gov.au/about/access-government-information/disclosure-log>.

The identity of applicants is not disclosed. If you have any concerns about the information released to you being published, please let us know.

Should you have any queries in relation to the processing of your request please contact me at [4][email address] or on 02 6207 7912

Kind Regards

Angelina Aloisi | Freedom of Information and Records Officer

Information and Knowledge Management

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT

Government

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[6]<http://www.environment.act.gov.au/> | [7]<http://www.planning.act.gov.au/>

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