



**ACT**  
Government

Environment, Planning and  
Sustainable Development

Phone: 6207 1923  
Reference: 18/32335

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Freedom of information request: Tharwa Village Plan Budget**

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 30 October 2018, in which you sought access to information relating to the Tharwa Village Plan budget.

Specifically, you are seeking:

*"With regard to the Tharwa Village Plan (see <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/tharwa>):*

- 1. What is the budget for the development of the plan? Please provide the overall amount budgeted for development of the plan, as well as a breakdown of the budget for consultants, community consultation, travel, etc.*
- 2. How much has been spent to date developing the plan? Please provide the overall amount spent developing the plan, as well as a breakdown of expenditure on consultants, community consultation, travel, etc."*

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

Following third party consultation and your agreement to extend the due date for decision, EPSDD is required to make a decision on your access application by 21 December 2018.

### **Decision on access**

As confirmed by you on 17 December 2018, your preference is to receive a spreadsheet of the information requested, as opposed to copies of individual invoices or receipts.

Therefore, I am recognising this application as an informal request under section 8 of the Act.

I have decided to grant full access to the spreadsheet prepared for this response.

Overall budget and spending amounts were available. However, itemisation or a breakdown of the budget was not undertaken as part of the process. The itemisation of spending is provided.

As the information could be considered of concern to third parties, consultation was conducted.

I have included as **Attachment A** to this decision the schedule of relevant documents. This provides a description of the document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision.

The document released to you is provided as **Attachment B** to this letter.

## **Material considered**

In reaching my access decision, I have taken the following into account:

- the FOI Act, particularly sections 8, 17, 38, and schedule 2;
- the *Information Privacy Act 2014*;
- the views of third parties relating the release of information of their concern.

In balancing public interest considerations, I am satisfied that the information contained within the document is in the public interest to disclose.

## **Charges**

Processing charges are not applicable for this request due to the documents provided numbering less than 50 pages.

## **Online publishing – disclosure log**

Under section 28 of the Act, EPSDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Your original access application, my decision and documents released to you in response to your access application will be published in the EPSDD disclosure log from three days after date of decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

You may view the EPSDD disclosure log at

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

## **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:

[http://www.ombudsman.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0026/79190/40A-Reviews-Factsheet-and-Application-Form-final-A1569634.pdf](http://www.ombudsman.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0026/79190/40A-Reviews-Factsheet-and-Application-Form-final-A1569634.pdf)

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: [actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto: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/>

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](mailto:EPSDFOI@act.gov.au)

Yours sincerely



Kathy Cusack  
Information Officer  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

20 December 2018