

Date 4th April, 2022

The FOI Information Officer
NATIONAL CAPITAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL (at EPSD Directorate)
GPO Box 158
Canberra ACT 2601

Via email: designreview@act.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

***Request for the release of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 (ACT)
(The FOI Act).***

This request is an application for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act. I respectfully request the provision of all documents relating to the proposed development of BLOCK 16 SECTION 10 CITY (70 Allara Street) as follows:

A copy of any and all submissions received, correspondence and file notes and recommendations and advice given in relation to the Geocon proposal to develop the site at 70 Allara Street.

To assist in the application and minimise the effort and resources required in meeting the application request I am happy for documents to be provided in an electronic form on a USB or similar electronic memory device and where multiple emails exist simply provide the final complete train of emails.

The provision of this information will permit [REDACTED] residents at 66 Allara Street, along with the broader Canberra community, to have visibility on the processes and issues relating to the sale and development of this site and engagement with the ACT Government, regarding the impact of the above mentioned development on 66 Allara Street and surrounding amenities.

I contend that, as per Section 107 of the FOI Act, any charges for processing the application and provision of said documents should be waived on the grounds that access to the documents is in the general public interest. The public interest in this matter is clearly related to the detrimental impact to residents in the adjacent building at 66 Allara Street and the surrounding amenities and the number of media articles on the sale and proposed development of this site as far back as 5 June 2020.

The documents in question are in the general public interest or in the interest of a substantial section of the public.

The documents relate to an agency decision that has been a topic of public interest or discussion, and disclosure of the documents would better inform the public as to why or how

the decision was made, including highlighting any problems or flaws that occurred in the decision-making process.

I look forward to hearing from you and receiving the requested documents.

Your sincerely,



From: [REDACTED]
To: EPSDFOI
Subject: Re: FOI 22/36112 - 70 Allara Street Geocon Development - request for scope refinement
Date: Tuesday, 12 April 2022 5:26:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Meg,

Thank you for your response.

I hereby agree to exclude emails of an administrative nature from my FOI request.

I would be obliged if you would provide the remainder of the information requested, at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

On Tue, Apr 12, 2022 at 2:59 PM EPSDFOI <EPSDFOI@act.gov.au> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your application received on 4 April 2022 (attached), by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD), relating to Block 16 Section 10 City (70 Allara Street) Geocon Development.

Further to my previous email regarding your FOI requests, I have a further scope refinement request.

EPSDD business areas have advised they hold documents relating to your request. I write to request that you consider refinement in terms of the broad scope of your application. I ask you consider the exclusion of the following documents:

- Emails of an administrative nature (such as calendar invites, meeting acceptances and internal coordination emails)

A targeted application may result in less processing time, a reduction in additional documents being processed that are not of interest to you, and is expected to reduce the likelihood of charges which apply after 50 pages.

Please Note: Processing of your application will be suspended under section 34(4) of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*, and will resume once we have received clarification from you to enable us to identify the documents you are seeking.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on 6205 8613.

Kind regards,

Meg Robinson | Information Governance Officer | Information Governance

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