



ACT
Government

Environment, Planning and
Sustainable Development

Phone: (02) 6207 1923
Reference: 23/24073

Dear [REDACTED]

Decision on Freedom of Information Access Application 23/24073

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 1 March 2023.

Specifically, you are seeking:

...meeting details related to building regulations/requirements in bushfire prone areas of Canberra. The details sought are date; time; place of meetings; name of the EPSDD convenor of the meeting and attendees where [REDACTED] and Conrad Barr (conrad.barr@act.gov.au) attended. I represented Treasury in relation to regulatory impacts but may have attended on behalf of Kathy Goth (kathy.goth@act.gov.au) or [REDACTED] (Matt Smith or Nicole Wong) so my email may not appear on Microsoft outlook records related to meetings. The likely date of meeting/s is calendar year 2016 (01/01/16 to 31/12/16). Please perform a search for records from 01/07/14 to 31/12/18 if the record search of 2016 does not yield a result. Please provide a copy of the outlook meeting requests and any records made during or after the meeting confirming the meeting details of attendees. The meeting/s of particular interest would have been at Dame Patti Menzies House in Dickson.

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, a decision on your application must be made on or by 20 April 2023.

Searches Conducted

Comprehensive searches were conducted by EPSDD officers for documents relevant to your application. The searches were conducted using the information you provided and included additional searches of the Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) used by EPSDD. However, no relevant documentation containing information relevant to your application was identified. EPSDD implemented digital recordkeeping in 2005 and has worked primarily with electronic records since 2008. During the indicated period a physical record would not have been created for this type of purpose. As such, physical records searches have not been conducted.

Section 34(1) of the Act requires the respondent to take reasonable steps to identify information that falls within scope of the access application. I am satisfied that reasonable steps were taken to identify any information within scope of the application.

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/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:

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
15 Constitution Avenue
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



Ben Green
Information Officer
Executive Group Manager, Planning and Urban Policy
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
20 April 2023