



26 April 2023

Our reference: LEX 73053

Concerned Citizen

Only by email: [foi+request-10166-48914a1b@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-10166-48914a1b@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Concerned Citizen,

### **Acknowledgement of your Freedom of Information Request**

I refer to your request for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act). You requested access to:

All documents, emails, briefs, text and/or instant messages (including but not limited to Whatsapp and signal) between the CEO or the CEO's office of Services Australia and Minister Bill Shorten and/or his office regarding Stuart Robert and/or Synergy 360 between 24-25 November 2022 inclusive and 30 November-2 December 2022 inclusive. Exclude any media clips.

Your request was received by Services Australia (the Agency) on 17 April 2023 and the 30 day statutory period for processing your request commenced from the day after that date. You should therefore expect a decision from us by 17 May 2023. The period of 30 days may be extended if we need to consult third parties or for other reasons. We will advise you if this happens.

The Agency will advise you if a charge is payable to process your request and the amount of any such charge as soon as practicable. No charge is payable for providing a person with their own personal information.

### **Your Address**

The FOI Act requires you provide us with an address which we can send notices to. You have advised your electronic address is [foi+request-10166-48914a1b@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-10166-48914a1b@righttoknow.org.au). We will send all notices and correspondence to this address. Please advise us as soon as possible if you wish correspondence to be sent to another address or if your address changes. If you do not advise us of changes to your address, correspondence and notices will continue to be sent to the address specified above.

### **Administrative Release of Documents**

The Agency has administrative access arrangements (arrangements) for the release of certain documents without the need for a formal FOI request. Unless you advise us otherwise, in processing your request we may provide you with documents under these arrangements where appropriate. The arrangements do not extend to information or materials of third parties. You will be notified when documents are released to you under the arrangements.

## **Disclosure Log**

Please note information released under the FOI Act may be published in a disclosure log on the Agency's website. Section 11C of the FOI Act requires this publication, however it is subject to certain exceptions, including where publication of personal, business, professional or commercial information would be unreasonable.

## **Exclusion of junior staff details**

The Agency is working towards ensuring all staff have a choice about whether they provide their full name, personal logon identifiers and direct contact details in response to public enquiries. Where such details are included in the scope of a request, this may add to processing time and applicable charges as it may be necessary to consider whether the details are exempt under the FOI Act. On this basis, unless you tell us otherwise, we will assume these details are out of scope of your request and they will be redacted under section 22 of the FOI Act.

## **Further assistance**

If you have any questions please email [foi.legal.team@servicesaustralia.gov.au](mailto:foi.legal.team@servicesaustralia.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

TY  
FOI Registration Officer  
Freedom of Information Team  
FOI and Ombudsman Branch | Legal Services Division  
Services Australia