



12 May 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

### **Freedom of Information Request - Third Party Consultation**

I refer to your request received by Services Australia (the Agency) on 17 April 2023, for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the following:

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.

#### *Third-party consultation - business documents*

As your request covers documents which contain information concerning the business, commercial or financial affairs of an organisation, or a person's business or professional affairs, the Agency is required to consult with the person or organisation concerned (under section 27 of the FOI Act) before making a decision on the release of those documents.

For this reason the period for processing your request has been extended by 30 days in order to allow the Agency time to consult with that person or organisation (section 15(6) of the FOI Act). The processing period for your request will now end on 16 June 2023.

The consultation mechanism under section 27 applies when the Agency considers the person or organisation concerned may wish to contend that the requested documents are exempt because their release would disclose trade secrets or commercially valuable information or may adversely affect their business or financial affairs. The Agency will take into account any comments we receive from the person or organisation. However, the final decision on whether to grant you access to the documents requested rests with this agency.

#### **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  
Authorised FOI Decision Maker  
Freedom of Information Team  
Information Access Branch | Legal Services Division  
Services Australia