

FOI ref: 2023/0172

30 August 2023

Caitlin

Email: foi+request-10596-782f8016@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Caitlin,

Acknowledgement of Freedom of Information Request no. 2023/0172

I refer to your request for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act* 1982 (FOI Act) received 20 August 2023.

Your request stated:

"This application is made bearing in mind that the word 'document' in sections 11(1)(a) and (b) of the FOI Act are defined in section 4 (paragraph (a)(vi)) as including 'any record of information' (emphasis added). In other words, the FOI Act contemplates the provision of information even if it is not placed in a physical or electronic document, in the natural sense of the word 'document'.

- 1. At what point in time (day/month/year) did the email address mrdivision@aat.gov.au become inactive?
- 2. At what point in time (day/month/year) did it cease to be possible to lodge review applications through

https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.tribunalonline.mrt-

rrt.gov.au%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C164c39b798b24813907b08dba16e5a8 e%7C1862f316d06041a3b8769e846c464c57%7C1%7C0%7C63828126757617 3834%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiV2lu MzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4M9 k7wofvGQuKtAxBX4O4PC5gRobcVDEqPe%2FUjSfKVw%3D&reserved=0?

- 3. What was/were the Tribunal's complete physical address/es in the Norfolk Island from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021?
- 4. What was/were the Tribunal's complete physical address/es in the Northern Territory from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021?"

Whilst I acknowledge your assertion that the definition of document and specifically 'any record of information', I note that the FOI Guidelines at paragraph 2.33 note that the right of access under the FOI Act is to existing documents, rather than to information.

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Nevertheless I have taken a broad view in interpreting your request to include any document or documents held by the AAT that contain the answers to your questions.

We received your request on 20 August 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 19 September 2023. The 30 day period may be extended if we need to consult other parties or for other reasons permitted under the FOI Act.

Please note that information released under the FOI Act may later be published online on our <u>disclosure log</u>, subject to certain exceptions. Personal information, for example, will not be published where this would be unreasonable.

We will contact you using the email address and phone number you have provided. Please advise if you would prefer us to use an alternative means of contact.

If you have any questions, please contact me at foi@aat.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Marta M

Authorised FOI Officer (APS 6)

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