Australian Bureau of Statistics

www.abs.gov.au
ABN: 26 331 428 522

CENTRAL OFFICE

ABS House
45 Benjamin Way
Belconnen ACT 2617

Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616

Telephone: (02) 6252 5000
Facsimile: (02) 6251 6009

FOI ref: 201415/17

Olivia Grace-Curran

Dear Olivia,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your email of 11 June 2015 in which you sought access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) (**Attachment A**):

> *"the total amount of Child Support arrears owed by paying parents in June 2010"*

Response to your request:

I am an authorised decision maker under section 23 of the FOI Act.

Statistical information collected by the ABS is obtained under the authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. Under Schedule 2, Part II, Division 2 of the FOI Act, this information cannot be released through a FOI request. As such, no access will be granted.

Regarding the information you seek, I recommend that you contact the ABS' National Information Referral Service (NIRS) on 1300 135 070. NIRS consultants will be able to determine if the ABS collects the information you require and, if the information is collected by the ABS, can advise you on how to access the information. In those cases where the ABS does not collect the data, NIRS consultants may be able to suggest other agencies or departments that you might like to contact.

Charges

There is no charge for this request.

Internal Review of the Decision

Section 54 of the FOI Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of the decision by the ABS. Additionally you may request a review of this decision by the Information Commissioner. Details of both procedures involved in an application to review a decision are set out at **Attachment B**.

If you have any queries on this matter please contact the ABS FOI Contact Officer, at freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au or on (02) 6252 7203.

Yours sincerely,

Lewis Conn
Assistant Statistician
Office of the Statistician and External Engagement
Australian Bureau of Statistics
12 June 2015

ATTACHMENT A

Dear Australian Bureau of Statistics,

I am a Journalism student at Macleay College. I respectfully request access under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 to the total amount of Child Support arrears owed by paying parents in June 2010.

Yours faithfully,
Olivia Grace-Curran

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
foi+request-1101-dfe7a9a3@righttoknow.org.au

Is freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to Australian Bureau of Statistics? If so, please contact us using this form:
https://www.righttoknow.org.au/change_request/new?body=abs

This request has been made by an individual using Right to Know. This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. More information on how Right to Know works can be found at:
https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers

If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

ATTACHMENT B

Procedures for Internal Review of the Decision

If you disagree with our decision you have the right to apply for an internal review under section 54 of the FOI Act.

Application for a review of the decision must be made within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required but it would assist the decision-maker were you to set out in the application the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed.

Application for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

The Freedom of Information Officer
Policy and Legislation Section
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Review by the Information Commissioner

Section 54L of the FOI Act provides that a person may apply for a review to the Information Commissioner concerning the original decision made by the agency.

An application for a review by the Information Commissioner must be occur within 60 days of the decision. The application must be made in writing (including email) and should be directed to the following address:

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
GPO Box 2999
Canberra ACT 2601

Email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au

Online Form: http://www.oaic.gov.au

An application for review through the Information Commissioner must include contact details for the applicant and a copy of the notice of decision as given by the agency under section 26.

The Information Commissioner usually prefers applicants to seek internal review before asking for a review through their office.