

2 October 2024

Gabriel
Right to Know

By email: foi+request-11944-70e0ca36@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Gabriel,

Freedom of Information request — Notification of Decision

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 August 2024, in which you requested access to documents held by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act).

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a decision on your request.

Scope of your request

You requested access to the following document:

“...an un-redacted copy of 'Standard Operating Procedure - Update Severity Tools' version 5.0...”

On 26 September 2024 you varied the scope of your request to the following:

“...an un-redacted copy of 'Standard Operating Procedure - Update Severity Tools' most recent version...”

Extension of time

On 21 September 2024, you agreed to a 30-day extension of time under section 15AA of the FOI Act, making 23 October 2024 the new date to provide you with a decision.

Decision on access to documents

I am authorised to make decisions under section 23(1) of the FOI Act. My decision and the reasons for my decision are set out below.

I have identified 1 document, which falls within the scope of your request.

The document was identified by conducting searches of NDIA's systems, using all reasonable search terms that could return documents relevant to your request, and consulting with relevant NDIA staff who could be expected to be able to identify documents within the scope of the request.

I have decided to grant access to 1 document in full.

In reaching my decision, I have taken into account:

- your correspondence outlining the scope of your request
- the nature and content of the documents falling within the scope of your request
- the FOI Act
- the FOI Guidelines published under section 93A of the FOI Act
- consultation with relevant NDIA staff
- factors relevant to my assessment of whether or not disclosure would be in the public interest
- the NDIA's operating environment and functions.

Release of documents

The document for release, as referred to in the Schedule of Documents at **Attachment A**, is enclosed.

Rights of review

Your rights to seek a review of my decision, or lodge a complaint, are set out at **Attachment B**.

Should you have any enquiries concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at foi@ndis.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. M. S.', written in a cursive style.

Kate (**KIM627**)

Senior Freedom of Information Officer
Complaints Management & FOI Branch
General Counsel Division

Schedule of Documents for FOI 24/25-0234

Document number	Page number	Description	Access Decision	Comments
1	1-33	SOP Complete the Update the Severity Tools Task V3 Date: 21 June 2023	FULL ACCESS	

Your review rights

Internal Review

The FOI Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of this decision. The review will be conducted by a different person to the person who made the original decision.

If you wish to seek an internal review of the decision, you must apply for the review, in writing, within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required for an application for internal review, but to assist the review process, you should clearly outline your grounds for review (that is, the reasons why you disagree with the decision). Applications for internal review can be lodged by email to foi@ndis.gov.au or sent by post to:

Freedom of Information Section
Complaints Management & FOI Branch
General Counsel Division
National Disability Insurance Agency
GPO Box 700
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

The FOI Act also gives you the right to apply to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to seek a review of this decision.

If you wish to have the decision reviewed by the OAIC, you may apply for the review, in writing, or by using the online merits review form available on the OAIC's website at www.oaic.gov.au, within 60 days of receipt of this letter.

Applications for review can be lodged with the OAIC in the following ways:

Online: www.oaic.gov.au
Post: GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001
Email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au
Phone: 1300 363 992 (local call charge)

Complaints to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner or the Commonwealth Ombudsman

You may complain to either the Commonwealth Ombudsman or the OAIC about actions taken by the NDIA in relation to your request. The Ombudsman will consult with the OAIC before investigating a complaint about the handling of an FOI request.

Your complaint to the OAIC can be directed to the contact details identified above. Your complaint to the Ombudsman can be directed to:

Phone: 1300 362 072 (local call charge)
Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

Your complaint should be in writing and should set out the grounds on which it is considered that the actions taken in relation to the request should be investigated.