



Ms Jenny Hare

By email: [foi+request-1302-7cd34786@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-1302-7cd34786@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Ms Hare

1. I refer to your request received by the Department of Education and Training (the department) on 10 October 2015, and revised on 8 December 2015, for access to a document under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act). As stated in the department's email of 9 December 2015, we understand the revised scope of your request to be as follows:

*"A copy of the request/application for Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP) funding that was made by the consortium of universities that delivered the Bridges to Higher Education initiative.*

*You are confining this request to 'only anything in the application about appraisement/assessment/evaluating/evaluation of the project and how they planned to do that'.*

*You are expressly excluding:*

- *any names or other personal information; and*
- *'information of all the peoples' cv's and details of how the money would be spent'."*

#### Background

2. On 30 October 2015 the department advised you of the preliminary estimate of the charge for processing your request, being \$138.75 (the Charge).
3. On 29 November 2015 the department received your request for non-imposition of the Charge on public interest grounds pursuant to section 29 of the FOI Act.
4. On 8 December 2015 you emailed the department to make revisions to the scope of your request. On 9 December 2015 we responded to your email, confirming our understanding of the revised scope of your request (as set out in paragraph 1 above).
5. Having considered the revised scope of your request, and your submissions regarding the public interest in the disclosure of the information captured, on 23 December 2015 the department notified you of its decision to reduce the Charge to **\$12.55**.
6. On 6 January 2016 the department received payment of the Charge.

#### Decision on access

7. I am authorised to make decisions under subsection 23(1) of the FOI Act.

8. I am advised that the department has in its possession 1 document relevant to the scope of your request.
9. Your request is confined to 'only anything in the application about appraisal/assessment/evaluating/evaluation of the project'. Further, you have expressly excluded 'any names or other personal information' or 'information of all the peoples' cv's and details of how the money would be spent'.
10. In accordance with section 22 of the FOI Act, I have deleted this irrelevant material from the document and have decided to release the balance of the document to you. The 12 pages of relevant material are enclosed with this letter.
11. I have attached information about your rights of review under the FOI Act (see **Attachment A**).

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6240 9305 or via email at [foi@education.gov.au](mailto:foi@education.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

M Simpson

Matthew Simpson  
A/g Senior Government Lawyer  
Schools, Childcare and Corporate Legal Branch  
People, Communication and Legal Group

21 January 2016

## Your rights of review

### Internal Review

Section 54 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (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 decision-maker you should clearly outline the grounds upon which you consider the decision should be reviewed. Applications for internal review can be lodged in one of the following ways:

Post: The FOI Coordinator  
Schools, Childcare and Corporate Legal Branch  
People, Communication and Legal Group  
Department of Education and Training  
Location Code: C50MA10  
GPO BOX 9880  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: [foi@education.gov.au](mailto:foi@education.gov.au)

### External Review by the Australian Information Commissioner

Section 54L of the FOI Act gives you the right to apply directly to the Australian Information Commissioner (AIC) to seek a review of this decision.

If you wish to have the decision reviewed by the AIC you must apply for the review, in writing or by using the online merits review form available on the AIC's website at [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au), within 60 days of receipt of this letter. To assist the AIC your application should include a copy of this decision and your contact details. You should also clearly set out why you are objecting to the decision.

You can also complain to the AIC about how an agency handled an FOI request, or other actions the agency took under the FOI Act.

Applications for review or complaint can be lodged in one of the following ways:

Online: [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au)  
Post: GPO Box 5218  
Sydney NSW 2001  
Fax: +61 2 9284 9666  
Email: [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)  
In person: Level 3, 175 Pitt Street  
Sydney, NSW 2000

For general enquiries, please call 1300 363 992 or +61 2 9284 9749 for international.

### The Commonwealth Ombudsman

You can complain to the Commonwealth Ombudsman concerning action taken by an agency in the exercise of powers or the performance of functions under the FOI Act.

A complaint to the Commonwealth Ombudsman may be made orally or in writing. The Ombudsman may be contacted for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Australia on telephone 1300 362 072.