

OFFICIAL



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Finance**

Agency reference: FOI 25-26/086  
Contact: FOI Team  
E-mail: [foia@finance.gov.au](mailto:foia@finance.gov.au)

O

**By email only:** [foi+request-13903-900b5756@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-13903-900b5756@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear O,

**Decision and Statement of Reasons issued under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* – FOI 25-26/086**

On 22 October 2025, the Department of Finance (Finance) received your email, in which you sought access under the Commonwealth *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the following:

any documents that:

- summarises the dollar savings generated by the ongoing efficiency dividend since its introduction in 1987 by year to today.
- lists the different exemptions to the efficiency dividend granted since its introduction.
- show how much of the efficiency dividend is met by staffing costs.

On 18 November 2025, you agreed to amend the scope of your request to the following:

a list of the different exemptions to the Efficiency Dividend that currently apply.

On 18 November 2025, the statutory timeframe was also extended under section 15AA of the FOI Act by 7 days to **28 November 2025**.

**Authorised decision-maker**

I am authorised by the Secretary of Finance under section 23(1) of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice of my decision under the FOI Act.

**My Decision**

I have identified **one** (1) document falling within the scope of your request and I have decided to release the document in full.

## Material taken into account

In making my decision, I have considered the following:

- the terms of your FOI request;
- the content of the document that falls within the scope of your request;
- relevant provisions of the FOI Act; and
- the FOI Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (FOI Guidelines)<sup>1</sup>.

## Review and appeal rights

You are entitled to request an internal review or an external review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) of my decision. The process for review and appeal rights is set out at **Attachment A**.

## Information Publication Scheme

The Information Publication Scheme requires an agency to publish information released in response to individual requests made under the FOI Act, except in specified circumstances.

I am of the view that details of your request should be made available on Finance's FOI Disclosure Log, which can be accessed at <https://www.finance.gov.au/about-us/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log>.

Finance only publishes details of the FOI request and the documents released in response to the request, and does not publish details of FOI applicants.

If you have any questions about this decision, please contact the FOI Team.

Yours sincerely,



Marianne Dolman  
Assistant Secretary  
Budget Policy Branch | Budget Policy and Data Division  
Department of Finance  
25 November 2025

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/freedom-of-information-guidance-for-government-agencies/foi-guidelines>



## Australian Government

### Department of Finance

## Your Review Rights

### Legislation

A copy of the FOI Act is available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2004A02562>. If you are unable to access the legislation through this website, please contact our office for a copy.

### Internal Review (IR)

If you disagree with this decision, you can seek a review of the original decision. The review will be conducted by a different decision maker, usually someone at a more senior level.

You must apply for an IR within **30** calendar days of being notified of the decision or charge, unless we agree to extend your time. You should contact us if you wish to seek an extension.

We are required to make an IR decision within 30 calendar days of receiving your application. If we do not make an IR decision within this timeframe, then the original decision stands.

Your request for an IR should include:

- a statement that you are seeking a review of our decision;
- attach a copy of the decision you are seeking a review of; and
- state the reasons why you consider the original decision maker made the wrong decision.

Email: [foia@finance.gov.au](mailto:foia@finance.gov.au)

Post: The FOI Coordinator  
Legal and Assurance Branch  
Department of Finance  
One Canberra Avenue  
FORREST ACT 2603

### Information Commissioner review

You may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for an Information Commissioner review of this decision. You must apply in writing within **60** calendar days of this notice.

For further information about review rights and how to submit a request for a review to the OAIC, please see <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/your-freedom-of-information-rights/freedom-of-information-reviews/information-commissioner-review>.

*Third parties*

If you are a third party objecting to a decision to grant someone else access to your information, you must apply to the Information Commissioner within **30** calendar days of being notified of our decision to release your information.

The OAIC asks that you commence a review by completing their online form which is available on their website noted above.

Your review application must include a copy of the notice of our decision that you are objecting to, and your contact details. You should also set out why you are objecting to the decision.

**Alternate contact details for the OAIC**

If the online form is not available, alternate contact details for the OAIC are as follows:

Email: [FOIDR@oaic.gov.au](mailto:FOIDR@oaic.gov.au)

Post: Office of the Australian Information Commissioner  
GPO Box 5218  
Sydney NSW 2001

Phone: 1300 363 992 (local call charge).

**Making a complaint**

You may complain to the Information Commissioner about action taken by the Department in relation to your request.

Your enquiries to the Information Commissioner can be directed to:

Phone: 1300 363 992 (local call charge)

Email: [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)

There is no particular form required to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner. The request should be in writing and should set out the grounds on which it is considered that the action taken in relation to the request should be investigated and identify the Department of Finance as the relevant agency.