

Our Ref: FOI/16/1203
Your Ref:

15 July 2016

Adi Berry

Via Email: foi+request-1983-cd6e5f88@righttoknow.org.au

Re: Freedom of Information Request

I refer to your letter of application received at Ambulance Victoria on 9 June 2016 requesting the following under the Freedom of Information Act 1982.

1. Documents outlining information about call-outs and ambulance responses to patients with suicidal ideation. The information provided should include the number of calls and responses, the average times of response, patient conditions upon ambulance arrival (where possible), action taken by ambulance upon arrival, and areas/suburbs with the highest suicidal ideation ambulance calls. This FOI also seeks NEPT information.

On Friday 10 June 2016, you confirmed that the date period of the data required was from 2005 onward.

On Wednesday 29 June 2016 I responded to your request stating that the information you seek is not something Ambulance Victoria could provide. The event dispatch categories do include events for suicide, but they fall under the Psych category. As stated in my previous email, ambulances are dispatched to cases and assigned an event type according to the information provided by the caller to the ESTA 000 call-taker. It is not known how a caller to 000 or either the call-taker could possibly know if the patient had suicidal thoughts. Ambulance Victoria also would not be able to provide any data back as far as 2005 (pre-merger) as this information is not held. Although as stated above, AV could provide data regarding attendances to patients with the event type of 'Psych – Threatening Suicide' but I have made the decision that the information obtained from this report would be insignificant and would not provide you with the information required, therefore I have decided not to provide this information

In accordance with S19 of the FOI Act, I can confirm that Ambulance Victoria does not currently have a report that can produce a written document containing the information you require.

In situations where no documents can be located or the documents do not exist, section 27(1)(e) of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 gives you the right to complain to the FOI Commissioner. The Freedom of Information Commissioner is located at:

PO Box 24274
Melbourne Vic, 3001
Telephone: 1300 842 364
Email: enquiries@foicommissioner.vic.gov.au

Please also find attached your receipt being for the FOI application fee paid

Regards,

Ian Mounsey
Records & FOI Team Leader