



Our reference: RQ16/04323
AFP reference: CRM 2017/30

Ms Keithlyn Small
Freedom of Information
Australian Federal Police
GPO Box 401
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Sent by email: foi@afp.gov.au

Dear Ms Small

Extension of time request under s 15AC

Thank you for your application of 18 October 2016 in which the Australian Federal Police (AFP) requested an extension of time to process PM Farrant's FOI request. PM Farrant's request was lodged under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (the FOI Act) on 19 July 2016.

The request has been deemed as refused as a decision was not made by the AFP by 17 October 2016. You therefore sought an extension of 10 days to process the request.

Decision

As a delegate of the Information Commissioner, I am authorised to make decisions on requests for extensions of time under s 15AC of the FOI Act.

I have decided to grant you an extension of 10 days to 27 October 2016. In coming to this decision I considered the following factors:

- The application is in an advanced stage with a draft decision having been made.
- The AFP is awaiting a final consultation response from the Department of Finance (the Department). The Department has advised that this response would be provided by 18 October 2016. Once these comments have been assessed, a final decision on the request will be made by the decision maker.

I am satisfied that the granting the AFP an extension of 10 days will enable the agency to manage and produce a well-reasoned FOI decision. This also represents

the fastest means of providing PM Farrant with a decision on their request. An extension until 27 October 2016 is appropriate in the circumstances.

This extension under s 15AC means that the deemed refusal is taken never to have applied if the AFP makes a decision on the request by 27 October 2016. Such an extension can only be granted once and cannot be extended by a variation.

An Information Commissioner extension under s 15AC of the FOI Act means that charges cannot be reimposed.

PM Farrant will be provided with a copy of this decision.

Contact

If you have any questions about this email, please contact me on 02 9284 9615 Monday to Wednesdays. Alternatively, I can be reached by email at Ben.Kirkwood@oaic.gov.au. In all correspondence please include reference number RQ16/04323.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ben Kirkwood', is centered below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Ben Kirkwood
Assistant Merit Review Officer
Dispute Resolution Branch

19 October 2016