

Canberra Office

ABS House

45 Benjamin Way

Belconnen ACT 2617

Phone 1300 135 070

Locked Bag 10 Belconnen ACT 2616

www.abs.gov.au ABN 26 331 428 522



FOI ref: 201617/16

James Smith

foi+request-2120-b16341c3@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Smith

# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your email of 10 August 2016 in which you sought access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the full personnel records of the ABS Executive Leadership Group, including names, addresses, dates of birth, bank account details and salary (**Attachment A**).

## Response to your request

I am an authorised decision maker under section 23 of the FOI Act.

The ABS has conducted an exhaustive search for documents relating to your request. I am now able to notify you that there are 4 files of documents that exist pertaining to your request. Of these, all documents in scope of your request are considered the personal information of those persons. Under section 27A(4) of the FOI Act, I have decided that the documents are conditionally exempt under section 47F of the FOI Act as the documents you have requested would constitute an unreasonable disclosure of personal information about members of the ABS Executive Leadership Group as they include information about these individual's private characteristics. As a result, I refuse you access to all documents in scope of your request.

I note that information about the ABS Executive Leadership Group that is considered to be in the public interest is disclosed as a matter of standard practice via the Remuneration Tribunal (<a href="https://www.remtribunal.gov.au/offices/full-time-offices">https://www.remtribunal.gov.au/offices/full-time-offices</a>) and the APS Employment Gazette (<a href="https://www.apsjobs.gov.au/NoBot/gazettedownloads.aspx?ifm=true">https://www.apsjobs.gov.au/NoBot/gazettedownloads.aspx?ifm=true</a>). In addition the ABS website provides biographies for each member of the ABS Executive Leadership Group (<a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/home/Senior+Staff+List">https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/home/Senior+Staff+List</a>).

There is no charge for this request.

#### Internal Review of the Decision

Section 54 of the FOI Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of the decision by the ABS. Additionally you may request a review of this decision by the Information Commissioner. Details of both procedures involved in an application to review a decision are set out at **Attachment B**.

If you have any queries on this matter please contact the ABS FOI Contact Officer, at <a href="mailto:freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au">freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au</a> or on (02) 6252 7203.

Yours sincerely

Christine Williams Program Manager

Governance & Parliamentary Liaison Branch

Australian Bureau of Statistics

September 2016

Dear Australian Bureau of Statistics,

I request the full personnel records of the ABS Executive Leadership Group, including names, addresses, dates of birth, bank account details and salary.

Yours faithfully,

James Smith

Please use this email address for all replies to this request: foi+request-2115-7fe026cf@righttoknow.org.au

Is freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to Australian Bureau of Statistics? If so, please contact us using this form: https://www.righttoknow.org.au/change request/new?body=abs

This request has been made by an individual using Right to Know. This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. More information on how Right to Know works can be found at:

https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers

If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

### **INFORMATION ON RIGHTS OF REVIEW**

## 1. APPLICATION FOR INTERNAL REVIEW OF DECISION

If you disagree with our decision you have the right to apply for an internal review under section 54 of the FOI Act.

Application for a review of the decision must be made within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required but it would assist the decision-maker were you to set out in the application the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed.

Application for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

ABS FOI Contact Officer
Policy, Legislation and Assurance Section
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

#### OR

# 2. APPLICATION TO AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION COMMISSIONER (INFORMATION COMMISSIONER) FOR REVIEW OF DECISION

Section 54L of the Act gives you the right to seek a review of the decision from the Information Commissioner. An application for review must be made within 60 days of receiving the decision.

Applications for review must be in writing and must:

- · give details of how notices must be sent to you; and
- · include a copy of the notice of decision.

You should send your application for review to:

The Information Commissioner
Office of the Information Commissioner
GPO Box 5218
SYDNEY NSW 2001

# AND/OR

## 3. COMPLAINTS TO THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

Section 70 of the Act provides that a person may complain to the Information Commissioner about action taken by an agency in the exercise of powers or the performance of functions under the Act.

A complaint to the Information Commissioner must be in writing and identify the agency the complaint is about. It should be directed to the following address:

The Information Commissioner
Office of the Information Commissioner
GPO Box 5218
SYDNEY NSW 2001

The Information Commissioner may decline to investigate the complaint in a number of circumstances, including that you did not exercise your right to ask the agency, the Information Commissioner, a court or tribunal to review the decision.