



Canberra Office
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Dear Mr Smith

I refer to your email dated 10 August 2016, and to your request for access to documents in the possession of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (the ABS) in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act). Your request sought access to the following:

- Documents which outline the expected demand of the 2016 Census system and related infrastructure during the Census period.
- Documents which detail testing of relevant systems in the leadup to the Census.
- Any internal ABS or IT contractor concerns raised in relation to expected performance, or lackthereof, of the Census system on Census night.
- All reports generated in response to public feedback with regard to the Census, which were sent to members of the ABS Executive Leadership group.

I am writing to notify you of our intention to refuse your request, in its current form, in accordance with Section 24(1) of the FOI Act.

I am refusing this request because a practical refusal reason exists.

In accordance with Section 24AA of the FOI Act, the work involved in processing your request in its current form would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of the agency from its other operations.

This view is based on information that I received from the business area that holds the documents. The business area estimates that it will take 264 hours of searching, generate 6,635 documents and require 553 hours of consideration.

Please contact ABS FOI Officer Keelie Williams with a view to agreeing to one of the following options:

- a. withdrawing your request;
- b. revising your request to narrow the scope; or
- c. indicating that you do not wish to revise your request.

Keelie Williams can be reached by email at freedomofinformation@abs.gov.au or by telephone on (02) 6252 7203.

Please note that in accordance with Section 24AB(2)(e) you have 14 days from the date of this email to contact the ABS regarding your request. If we do not hear from you in this time your request will be deemed to be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely

Christine Williams
Program Manager
Governance & Parliamentary Liaison Branch
Australian Bureau of Statistics

19 August 2016