



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Ref: FOI 2016/17-19

Sarah Van Winkle

via email: foi+request-2236-727e3276@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Ms Van Winkle

Your FOI request – decision

I refer to your request, received by the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources on 19 September 2016, and transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on 21 September 2016. The request is for access under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act) to *'the cost-benefit analysis of the effects of [the Minister's] decision to move 175 public servants from Canberra to Armidale'*, referred to in a Canberra Times article dated 11 September 2016.

I have decided there will be no charge for processing your request.

Decision on access to documents

I am authorised to make decisions under the FOI Act.

One report has been located within scope of your request. I have decided that the document is exempt from disclosure under s 34 of the FOI Act.

Section 34(1)(a) of the FOI Act provides that a document is exempt if both the following are satisfied:

- *'it has been submitted to the Cabinet for its consideration, or is or was proposed by a Minister to be so submitted*
- *it was brought into existence for the dominant purpose of submission for consideration by the Cabinet'.*

This applies to the document you have requested, and I have therefore decided that the document is exempt.

Review rights

If you wish to seek an internal review, you must apply to the department within **30 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. An application for internal review must be made in writing. It is helpful if you set out the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed. Your application for an internal review should be sent via email to foi@agriculture.gov.au, or to:

FOI Officer
Department of Agriculture
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601.

Alternatively, you may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within **60 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. You can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the department handled your request. You can find information about requesting a review, making a complaint, and other information about FOI on the OAIC website www.oaic.gov.au. You can also phone the OAIC on 1300 363 992.

Contact details

Should you wish to discuss any issues arising from this letter, please contact FOI officer Stuart Plowman on 02 6272 5051 or email foi@agriculture.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Martin Walsh
Acting Assistant Secretary
Agvet Chemicals Taskforce

30 September 2016