



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: 201617/55

Mr James Smith
foi+request-3071-1da2a51a@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Smith

RE: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your email of 16 February 2017 (Attachment A) in which you sought access to the following information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act):

"document(s) which describe the data provided to the external organisation(s) responsible for conducting the ballot(s) for all Enterprise Agreements put to staff for a vote. The scope of this request is limited only to those ballots undertaken for enterprise agreements which were proposed to take effect after 30 June 2014. The document shall describe the data given to the ballot agent. For example, employee name, employee identification number, employee email address, etc. I exclude the data for specific employees here; I am only after the 'meta-data'."

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 four documents exist pertaining to your request. I have decided to give you access to all four documents in part. The documents being released to you are at Attachment B.

Statement of reasons

Redactions have been made to the documents for the following reasons:

I have decided that all documents contain administrative and record-keeping details, which are irrelevant to your request under section 22 of the FOI Act.

Charges

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 C.

Yours sincerely

Christine Williams
Program Manager
Risk, Planning and Policy Branch
Australian Bureau of Statistics

20 March 2017

Dear Australian Bureau of Statistics,

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I request the document(s) which describe the data provided to the external organisation(s) responsible for conducting the ballot(s) for all Enterprise Agreements put to staff for a vote.

The scope of this request is limited only to those ballots undertaken for enterprise agreements which were proposed to take effect after 30 June 2014.

The document shall describe the data given to the ballot agent. For example, employee name, employee identification number, employee email address, etc. I exclude the data for specific employees here; I am only after the 'meta-data'.

If it assists you to treat this as an administrative request for information I encourage you to do so. Otherwise, please consider this a formal FOI request.

Yours faithfully,

James Smith

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
foi+request-3071-1da2a51a@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

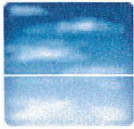
3. COMPLAINTS TO THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

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.



Re: ABS Ballot information required. [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] 

[Redacted]

08/10/2015 12:47 PM

[Redacted]

As discussed, I've added an "leave flag" column in the s/sheet so that you know which employees you need to either send voting info via the post [if no personal email address supplied] or personal email address [if supplied]. I am not sure yet if the column will be populated with a Y or N but this is just an eg so you get the idea.

[Redacted]



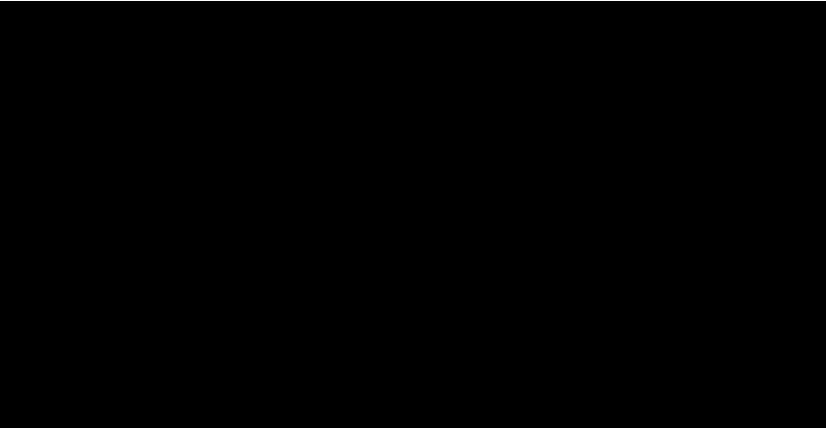
Voter Roll Template.xls

[Redacted]

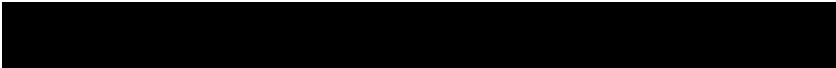
Date: 06/10/2015 09:48 AM

Subject: Re: ABS Ballot information required. [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

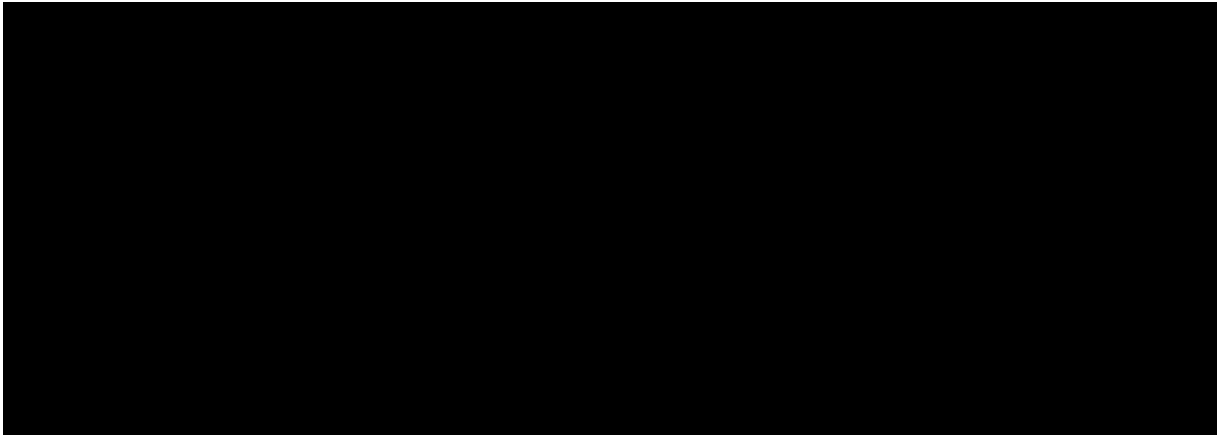
[Redacted]



Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 11:59 AM

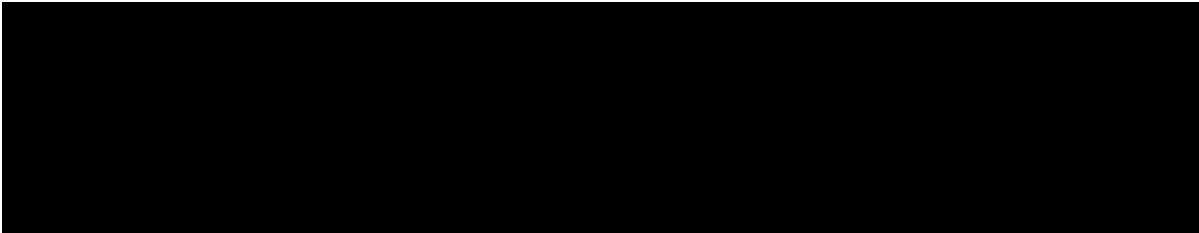


Subject: Re: ABS Ballot information required. [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

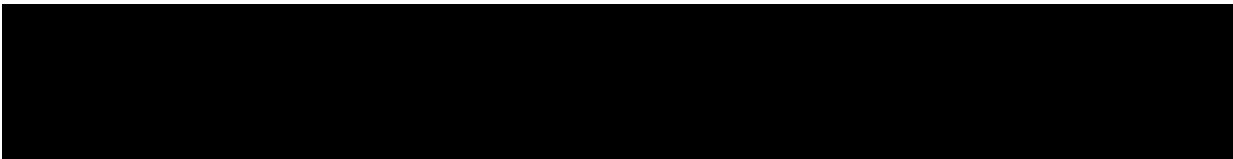


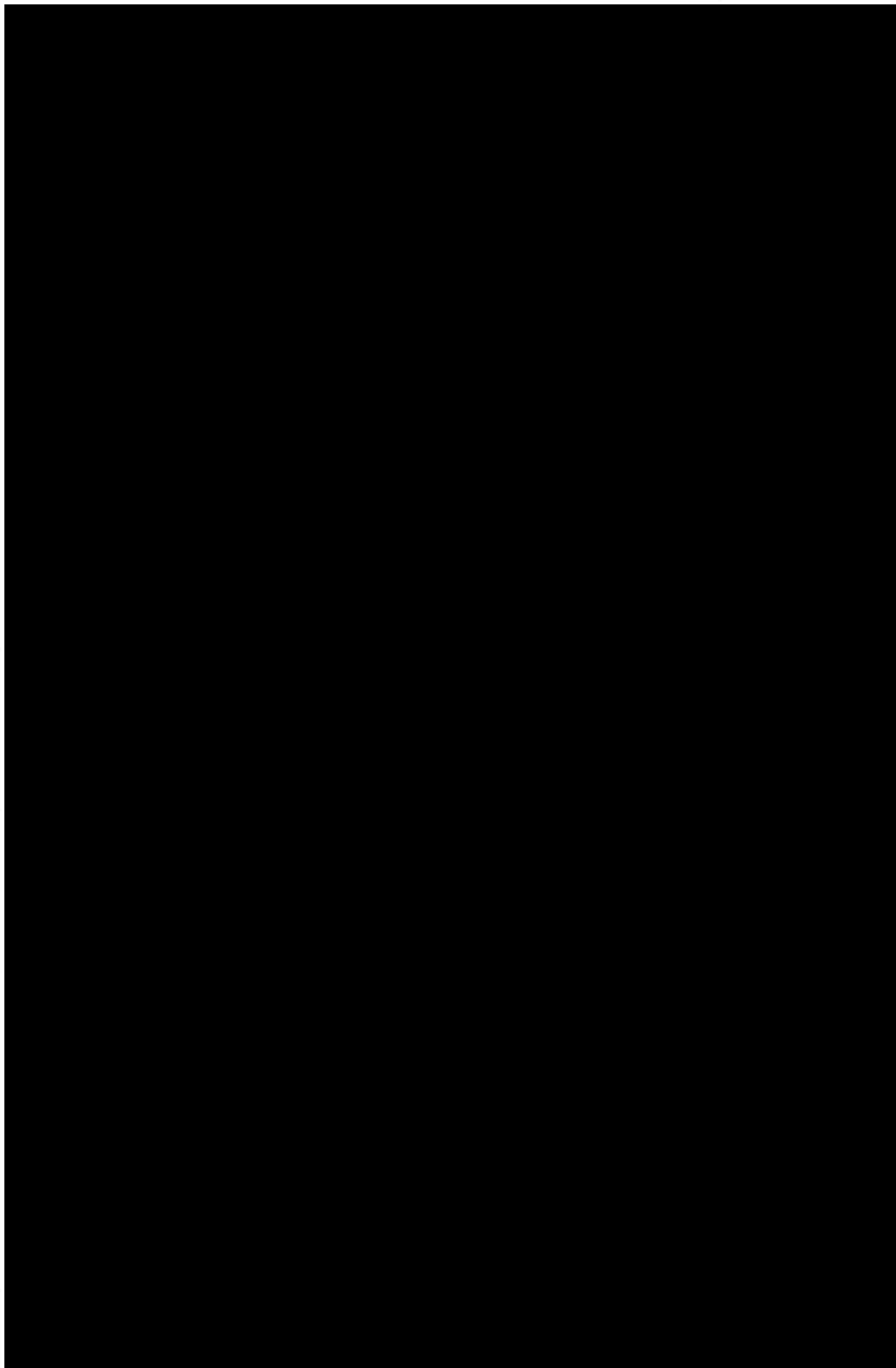
2. Please confirm that the Employee number known as an AGS number? **Yes, it is AGS number**

3. Please confirm the number of digits in the AGS/Employee number? **8 digits i.e. 71509517**



7. Attached is the Voter Roll Template and Voter Roll Certification for your completion and return. **There will undoubtedly be staff on leave during the ballot and we need to capture these so that you can send them voting information via the post or via a personal email address. The voter roll template does not have fields for this. Could you please provide us with an updated template and advice as to how you want this information presented thanks.**





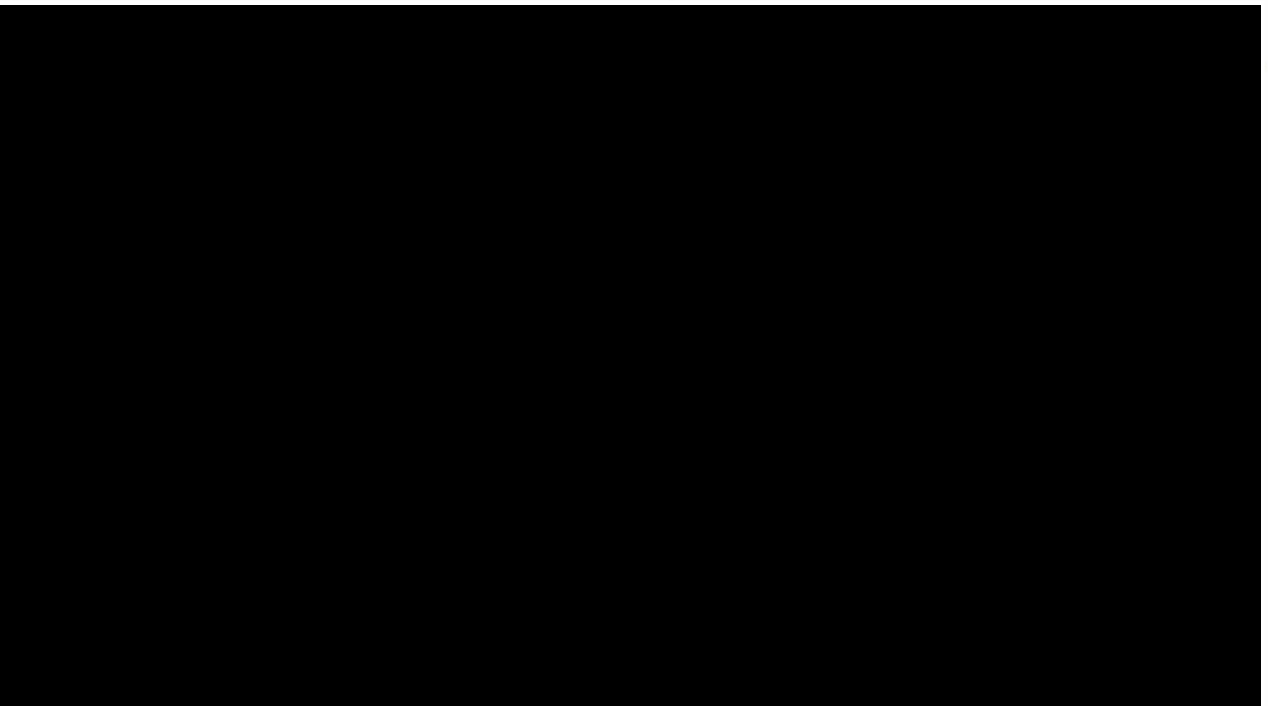
[REDACTED]
Date: 29/09/2015 09:20 AM

Subject: ABS Ballot information required.

- [REDACTED]
2. *Please confirm that the Employee number known as an AGS number?*
 3. *Please confirm the number of digits in the AGS/Employee number?*

[REDACTED]

7. *Attached is the Voter Roll Template and Voter Roll Certification for your completion and return.*




AGS Number	Surname	First Name	Postal - Address	Postal - City/Suburb	Postal - State	Postal - Postcode	Work Email Address	Personal Email Address	Date of Birth	Leave Flag
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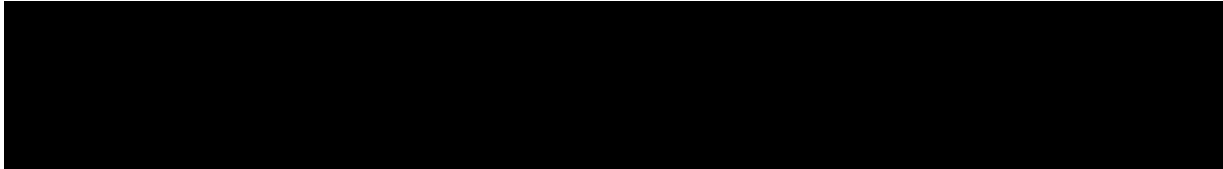


Voter Roll [DLM=Sensitive:Personal] 

25/02/2016 12:08 PM



Please find attached below the Ballot Roll for the vote for the proposed ABS Interviewers Enterprise Agreement 2016. 



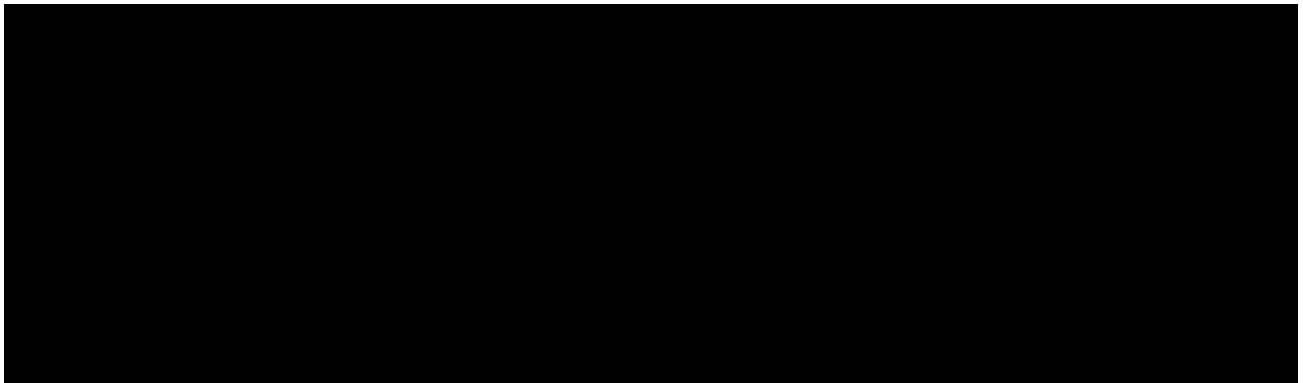
Ballot Roll

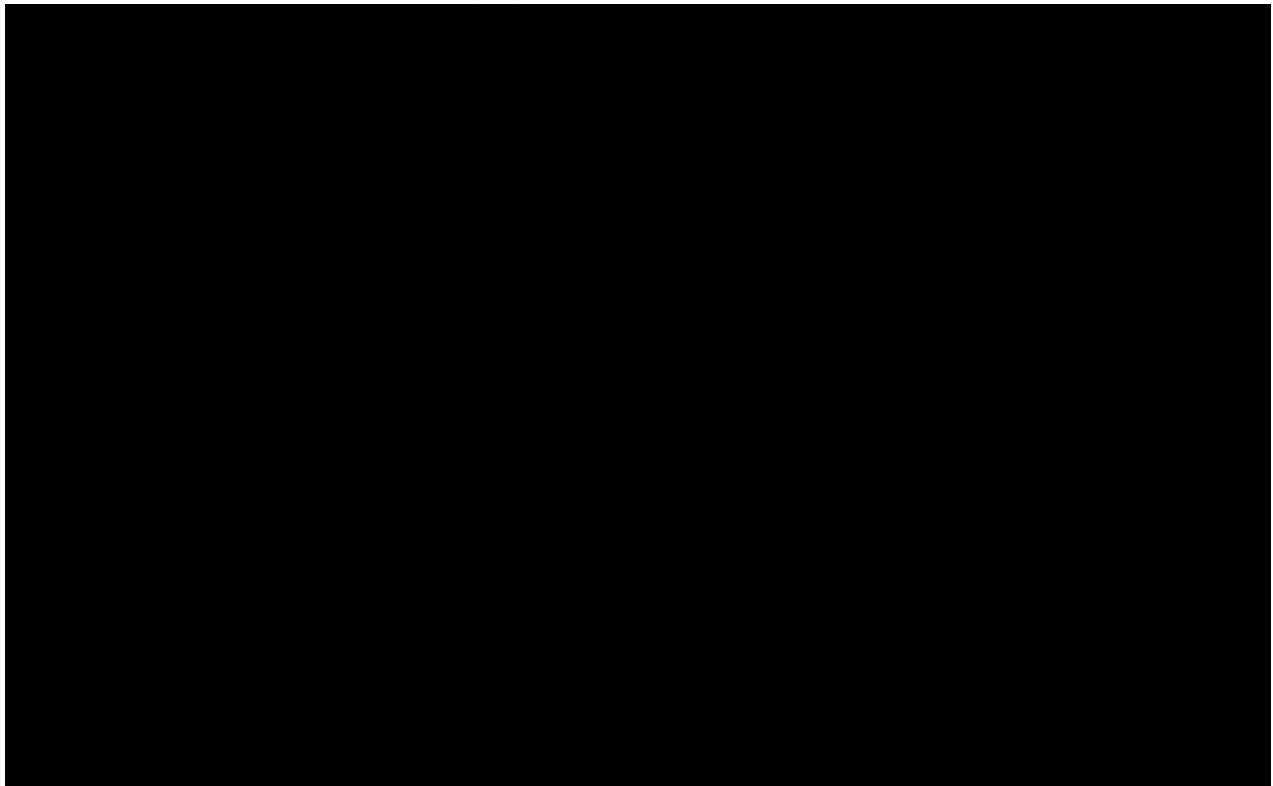


ABS Int Ballot Roll Master.xlsx

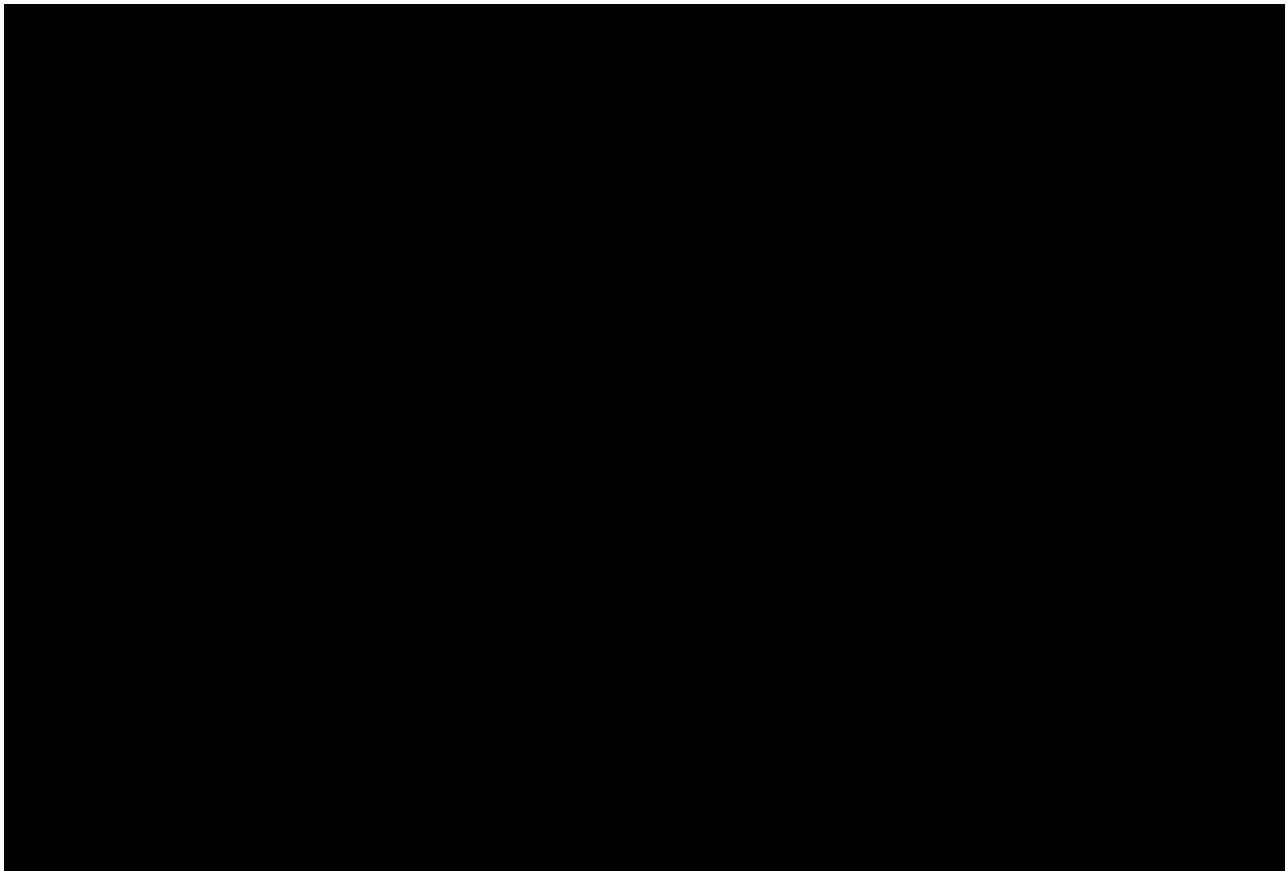


Date: 23/02/2016 02:33 PM
Subject: Re: Voter Roll [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]





From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 1:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Voter Roll [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]





Employee Number	Surname	First Name	Postal - Address 1	Postal - City/Suburb	Postal - State	Postal - Postcode	Email Address	Date of Birth	On Leave Y/N	Alternate email address	Comments
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ABS EA Ballot Roll [DLM=Sensitive]

[Redacted]

22/04/2016 08:39 AM

[Redacted]

Please find attached below the ABS Ballot Roll for the upcoming ABS EA Ballot.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



ABS Ballot Roll_21 April 2016.xlsx

[Redacted]

AGS Number	Surname	First Name	Postal - Address	Postal - City/Suburb	Postal - State	Postal - Postcode	Work Email Address	Personal Email Address	Date of Birth	Leave Flag
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ABS Interviewer Ballot Roll [DLM=Sensitive:Personal]

[Redacted]

02/12/2016 03:48 PM

[Redacted]

Please find attached the ballot roll for the upcoming Australian Bureau of Statistics Interviewers Enterprise Agreement 2016 ballot.

[Redacted]

Ballot Roll



ABS Int EA 2016_Ballot Roll Master.xlsx

[Redacted]

Employee Number	Surname	First Name	Postal - Address 1	Postal - City/Suburb	Postal - State	Postal - Postcode	Email Address	Date of Birth	On Leave Y/N	Alternate email Address
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