

Australian Government

Department of Communications and the Arts

Mr Jackson Gothe-Snape Right to Know

(via email: foi+request-3299-cccc19c@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Mr Gothe-Snape

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 26-1617 ACCESS DECISION

I refer to your request dated 28 March 2017 under section 15 of the *Freedom of Information Act* 1982 (FOI Act) access to:

"...the topics list for briefs created in preparation for hearings of Senate 2016-17 Additional Estimates..."

Authority

I am authorised by the Secretary of the Department under section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision in relation to your request.

Background

On 3 April, the Department acknowledged your request and on 24 April, notified you of the preliminary estimate of the processing charges. By email dated 27 April, you requested internal review of that estimate of charges.

On 25 May, the Department wrote to you to seek clarification of the scope of your request and specifically whether it is intended as a request for a single document or multiple documents. To date, the Department has not received a response to that correspondence.

On 29 May, the Department provided notice of the General Counsel's internal review decision under section 54C of the FOI Act, to both vary the assessment of charges and to waive the FOI processing charges in full. I note that in making her decision, the General Counsel determined, in the absence of confirmation of the scope of your request, that your request is framed to capture a single document.

Decision

The Department has identified one document relevant to the scope of your request. I have been provided with a copy of that document, which is attached to this letter at **Attachment A**.

I have also been provided with other documents identified by the Department's searches as potentially relevant to your request. I find that these other documents are not within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant access in full to the document at **Attachment A** under section 11A of the FOI Act.

Material considered in making my decision

I had regard to:

- the scope of the FOI request;
- the content of the document identified by the Department's searches as relevant to your request;
- the relevant provisions of the FOI Act;
- advice from subject matter experts within the Department; and
- the Guidelines issued by the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (the **FOI Guidelines**).

Disclosure log

Pursuant to section 11C of the FOI Act, the Department will publish the document at Attachment A on the website within 10 days of providing you with this decision.

Review rights

Whilst previously provided to you, a further copy of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner's FOI Fact Sheet 12 – Your review rights is at Attachment B.

Yours sincerely

Legal Director

Office of the General Counsel

Position Number: 111069

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1 June 2017

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