



By email: foi+request-4178-68d83ede@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Henry,

Request Consultation Process

I refer to your request received by the Department of Education and Training (the department) on 27 October 2017 for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to:

'the full Financial Questionnaire (reference <https://ssphelp.education.gov.au/financial-questionnaire>) submitted by non-Government schools in the Coffs Harbour region (within postcode 2450) from 2009-2016'.

I have consulted with departmental officers in the School Payments and Assurance Branch regarding the number and nature of documents held by the department which are likely to be relevant to your request, and the work involved in processing your request.

Based on the documents provided, I have formed the view that processing your request in its current form would amount to a substantial and unreasonable diversion of the department's resources.

I have estimated that it has taken approximately two hours to identify and locate the documents, and will take more than 95 hours to examine the documents, consult with ten third parties in relation to the request, decide whether to grant or refuse access to the documents and notify you of the final decision.

This is because your request, as currently worded, captures approximately 778 pages of material. This is because you have asked for data covering a number of years. I also note that there are a significant number of third parties referred to in the documents that the department would be required to consult with in the course of processing your request.

Given the above, it is my intention to refuse your request as currently worded under section 24 of the FOI Act because I am satisfied that a practical refusal reason exists under subparagraph 24AA(1)(a)(i), in that processing your request would amount to a substantial and unreasonable diversion of the department's resources.

Before doing so, I am initiating a request consultation process under section 24AB of the FOI Act, to provide you with an opportunity to make a written submission in support of your request as currently worded, or to revise the scope of your request so that the practical refusal reason no longer exists.

Information to assist with revising your request

The scope of your request as currently worded would encompass a large volume of material, requiring consultations with ten third parties. To narrow the request, as a starting point, you may wish to consider only requesting the Financial Questionnaire submitted in a single year for non-government schools in the Coffs Harbour region excluding any attachments that form part of the collection.

You have **14 days** from the day you receive this letter to contact me and do one of the following:

- (a) withdraw your request;
- (b) make a revised request; or
- (c) indicate that you do not wish to revise the request.

Once you undertake one of the above actions, the consultation period will conclude and the department will then proceed to make a decision in relation to your request.

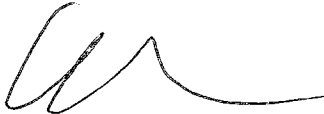
You can contact me by writing to the following address:

Attention: Genevieve Fiot
Schools, Child Care and Corporate Legal Branch
Department of Education and Training
Location Code: C50MA10
GPO Box 9880
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Alternatively, you can send an email to foi@education.gov.au.

If you do not contact the department within this period, please note that your FOI request will be taken to have been withdrawn under subsection 24AB(7) and will not be dealt with any further.

Yours sincerely



Genevieve Fiot
Senior Government Lawyer
Schools, Child Care and Corporate Legal Branch

10 November 2017