



Thomas Randle

via email: foirequest-4392-ed81d8fa@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Randle

I refer to your request of 24 February 2018, for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to:

- (a) Any report or investigation documents regarding the destruction in 2017 of plant specimens dispatched from the Jardin des Plantes at France's Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle to botanist Tony Bean.*
- (b) Any document specifying the scope of any investigation/s the department has undertaken in relation to the above matter.*
- (c) Exclude from the scope of this request all emails, except where an email contains an attachment document within the scope of (a) or (b) above*

On 1 June 2018, you agreed via telephone that the names of departmental officers could be considered outside the scope of the request, and therefore redacted from the documents.

On 23 March 2018 the department advised you that the preliminary estimate of the charge for processing your request was \$57.45. The department received payment of the charge in full on 20 April 2018.

I am required to calculate the charges again after making a decision. The actual time incurred in processing the request accorded with the estimate, so the charge remains unchanged.

Decision to grant access to documents

I am authorised to make decisions under the FOI Act and my decision is set out below.

I have identified three documents within the scope of your request. Although you have specifically asked to exclude emails from the scope at point (c), please note there is one email included as I consider it meets your request at points (a) and (b). The summary of the decision as it applies to the documents covered by your request are as follows:

| Doc no. | Date | Pages | Description | Decision |
|---------|----------|-------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | 01/06/17 | 3 | Action Plan (Herbarium Samples through Mail pathway) | Release in full |
| 2 | 13/04/17 | 3 | Email report outlining chronology | Release in full |
| 3 | 12/05/17 | 2 | Final media statement | Release in full |

I have decided that all documents are appropriate for release. I have enclosed copies of the documents.

Publication of information in the FOI disclosure log

Section 11 of the FOI Act requires publication of released documents on the department's FOI disclosure log, subject to certain exceptions. In this instance, I have decided to publish the information on the department's FOI disclosure log.

Review rights

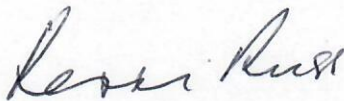
If you wish to seek an internal review, you must apply to the department within **30 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. An application for internal review must be made in writing by post to the FOI Officer or email to foi@agriculture.gov.au.

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 or phone the OAIC on 1300 363 992.

Contact details

Should you wish to discuss any issues arising from this letter, please contact Melissa Nickols by telephone on 02 6272 3537 or email foi@agriculture.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Kerri Russ
Assistant Secretary
Service Delivery Division

19 June 2018