



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

Reference: BI302329

**FOI 423/17/18 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

1. I refer to the application by Ms Verity Pane under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

*“The current list of Authorised Decision Makers (ADMs) held by the FOI Directorate and the contact details of the ADMs as recorded in the FOI database.”*

**FOI decision maker**

2. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

**Documents identified**

3. I identified two documents as matching the description of the request. As noted in the applicant’s original correspondence, the names and phone numbers are outside the scope of the request and not required. As such, I have not considered this information. Furthermore, I note the applicant sought the locations of the decision makers. As such, I have considered this information as part of the request.

**Decision**

4. I have decided to:
- Partially release two documents in accordance with section 22 [access to edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted] of the FOI Act, on the grounds that the deleted material is considered exempt under section 7 (2A)(b) [Exemption of certain persons and bodies] of the FOI Act; and
  - remove irrelevant material in accordance with section 22(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act.

**Material taken into account**

5. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- the terms of the request;
  - the content of the identified documents in issue;
  - relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
  - the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).

**Reasons for decision**

**Sections 7 (2A) - Exempt Agency**

6. Upon examination of the documents, I identified information which was received from an intelligence agency.

7. Section 7(2A) of the FOI Act (supplemented by Schedule 2, Part II) lists agencies that are exempt from the operation of the Act in relation to documents that originated with or received from those agencies. The exemption extends to a part of a document that contains an extract from or a summary of an intelligence agency document, or a defence intelligence document.

8. I am satisfied that the material exempted under section 7(2A) of the FOI Act has been received from listed agencies.

**Clarification/Context Statement**

9. Please be advised that Defence's FOI decision makers are usually EL1/EL2 or military equivalents. While the documents do not state the level of the decision maker they do provide their rank and appointment. Directors are generally at the EL2 level and Deputy or Assistant Director' are generally at the EL1 level.

Melissa Davidson  
Accredited Decision Maker  
Associate Secretary Group