



Australian Government
Department of Jobs and Small Business

Ref 34682

Ms Clarissa Loi
Right to Know website

By email: foi+request-4619-69355542@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Ms Loi

Notice under s 24AB of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* - request consultation process

We refer to your email of 31 May 2018 requesting access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act) to:

'A complete list of Work for the Dole activities currently available across Australia, and specified by states? If possible, could the documents indicate the corporation / employer responsible for running or organizing these activities?'

Notice of intention to refuse your FOI request

I have consulted with Departmental officers 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. I am advised that, as at 31 May 2018;

- there are 5,507 current Work for the Dole activities;
- there are 46 different Jobactive scheme providers responsible for organising and establishing the activities; and
- there are 1,805 different host organisations responsible for running the day to day operation of the activities.

The second part of your request seeks individual identified personal and business information. This means the Department would have to conduct consultations with 1,851 Jobactive scheme providers and host organisations about the release of their information. I estimate that the consultation process alone would take in excess of 3,700 hours, or 493 working days. I consider this combined amount of time to be a substantial amount of work that would divert the Department's resources from its other operations.

Accordingly, I consider that the work required to process your request would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of the Department from its other operations. I am therefore satisfied that a practical refusal reason exists in relation to your request for the purposes of subsection 24AA(1) of the FOI Act. In view of this, I am writing to you under subsection 24AB(2) of the FOI Act to notify you of my intention to refuse your FOI request, on the basis that a practical refusal reason exists.

Request consultation process (section 24AB)

Before making a decision to refuse your request on the above grounds, I am providing you with an opportunity to contact me and make submissions in support of your request as currently worded, or revise the scope of your request, so that the practical refusal reason will no longer exist.

Scope revision considerations

To assist you, I can advise that the Department is easily able to provide you with a de-identified list of Work for the Dole activities as sought by Part 1 of your request. The unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources relates to Part 2 of your request. Removing Part 2 of your request will overcome the Department's difficulties with processing your request.

Next steps

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.

If you do not contact the Department within this period, your FOI request will be taken to have been withdrawn under subsection 24AB(7) of the FOI Act.

Contact details

If you wish to discuss the matter, you can contact me on email at FOI@jobs.gov.au or by phone on (02) 6121 6718.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Plowman
Senior Government Lawyer
Information Law Team
Corporate Legal

14 June 2018