



Private and Confidential

29 November 2018

Mr Ben Fairless

By email only: foi+request-4999-a0164bd9@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Fairless

Freedom of information request

I refer to your email to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) dated and received 14 November 2018 in which you sought access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to documents concerning arrangements approved by the principal officer of AHPRA authorising officers of the agency under section 23 of the FOI Act, to act as decision-makers on requests for access to AHPRA under the FOI Act.

I am an authorised decision-maker under section 23 of the FOI Act. This letter sets out my decision on your request for access.

Materials Relevant to Making of Decision

In reaching my decision I referred to the following:

- the terms of your request
- the documents relevant to the request
- the FOI Act

In applying the FOI Act, I have had regard to the provisions of that legislation as if the amendments made by the *Freedom of Information Amendment (Reform) Act 2010* (Cth) had not taken effect.¹

Decision

I have identified 6 documents relevant to your request which I have decided to release to you in full. These documents are current Instruments of Authorisation completed by AHPRA's principal officer.

Charges

No charges have been imposed for the processing of this request.

¹ See clause 18 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Regulation* (No 42/2010)

Review Rights

You are entitled to seek review of this decision. Your rights to apply for review if you are dissatisfied with my decision are under section 54 of the FOI Act, by writing to Mr Murray Smith, State Manager – AHPRA Victoria, within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

You also have the right to raise this decision with the Office of the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and Privacy Commissioner. The National Law establishes the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman (the Ombudsman) and applies the *Ombudsman Act 1976* (the Ombudsman Act), as amended by the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Regulation 2010*. The Ombudsman exists to undertake the functions of the Commonwealth Ombudsman under the Ombudsman Act.

Complaints can be made directly to the Ombudsman if you have concerns with how AHPRA has managed the administrative aspects of your FOI request. A complaint to the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman may be made orally or in writing and should be directed to:

Office of the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and Privacy Commissioner

Postal Address: Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3001
Telephone: 1300 795 265
Email: complaints@nhpopc.gov.au
Website: <http://www.nhpopc.gov.au>

The authorisation documents have been enclosed with this letter.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Amy Lipow

Senior FOI Officer, National Information Release Unit

Reference Number: FOI21905