



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

FOI

FOI 18/208

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

REQUEST BY: Posty

DECISION BY: Celeste Moran
Assistant Secretary
Legal Policy Branch

By email: Posty <foi+request-5185-b18b30a4@righttoknow.org.au>

Dear Posty

I refer to your request of 31 December 2018 made to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet ('the Department'), under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act), in the following terms:

'I request, under the Freedom of Information Act 1982, copies of the following documents:

.'All email (or the last 3 years, if that is too voluminous) sent to the Freedom of Information Team's email address that feature compliments relating to this department's Freedom of Information Disclosure Log.

If there's too many of them, and the redaction would require too much effort to do, a simple number of documents over the time period is fine (a year breakdown would be great but I don't want to push it).

If none exist—that's fine too. I'd like to know.'

Authorised decision-maker

I am authorised to make this decision in accordance with arrangements approved by the Department's Secretary under section 23 of the Act.

Search for documents undertaken by the Department

Having regard to my knowledge of where documents potentially relevant to your request might have been held, I arranged for thorough searches to be carried out within the Department for any electronic or paper documents that might fall within the scope of your request.

No such documents were found.

Decision

Section 24A(1) of the Act provides that an agency or Minister may refuse a request for access to a document if:

- (a) all reasonable steps have been taken to find the document;
and
- (b) the agency or Minister is satisfied that the document:
 - (i) is in the agency's or Minister's possession but cannot be found; or
 - (ii) does not exist.

I am satisfied that all reasonable steps have been taken to find documents within the scope of your request and that documents of the type requested by you do not exist.

I have therefore decided to refuse your request under section 24A(1) of the Act.

Processing and access charges

I have decided not to impose processing charges in respect of your request.

Review rights

Information about your rights of review is attached to this decision.

Complaint rights

You may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner about the Department's actions in relation to this decision. Making a complaint about the way the Department has handled an FOI request is a separate process to seeking a review of the Department's decision.

A complaint to the Information Commissioner must be in writing and identify the agency in respect of which the complaint is made. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) may be contacted by phone (1300 363 992), email (enquiries@oaic.gov.au) or by letter (GPO Box 2999, Canberra ACT 2601). Further information about the OAIC can be found on its website: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/>.



Celeste Moran
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

30 January 2019