



13 December 2019

Our reference: LEX 49179

Ms Julie Middleton

By email: [foi+request-5907-7e97d143@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-5907-7e97d143@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Ms Middleton

### Request - administrative access

I refer to your request received by the Department of Human Services (**department**) on 15 November 2019 for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (**FOI Act**) to the following documents:

'I am seeking copies of the Department's policies and procedures in relation to the receipting, monitoring and report on compensation recoveries from 1992 to present.

Under the Social Security Act 1991 (Cth), if an individual has an accident, for which he/she may be able to get compensation and they apply for Centrelink payments, there is an obligation to pursue a compensation claim. Centrelink's MOD C form includes on page 4:

24 I declare that:

- the information I have provided in this form is complete and correct.

I understand that:

- under Section 1166 of the Social Security Act 1991, if the Australian Government Department of Human Services believe I have an entitlement to compensation I will be required to take reasonable action to obtain that compensation.'

### Administrative Access

On 21 November 2019, the department acknowledged your request and advised that the documents you were seeking may be available and released to you through the department's administrative access arrangements (**arrangements**). We did not receive any response from you in relation to this matter.

The department has identified one document (totalling three pages) that relates to your request. The relevant business area has considered your request and advised that the document details policies and procedures relating to compensation recoveries which have been substantively unchanged since 1992.

The department has determined that this document can be released under the arrangements. Please find **attached** a copy of the requested document. The information

contained in the document can also be accessed via our website  
<http://operational.humanservices.gov.au/public/Pages/compensation/117-01010020-01.html>.

As the relevant document has been provided to you outside of the FOI Act, I have taken your FOI request to be withdrawn and have closed your FOI request.

**Further assistance**

If you have any questions please email [freedomofinformation@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:freedomofinformation@humanservices.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Elsa**

Authorised FOI Decision Maker  
Freedom of Information Team  
Employment Law and FOI Branch | Legal Services Division  
Department of Human Services