



Australian Government

Department of Health

Department Reference: FOI 1716

Chris F

Via email: foi+request-6333-69c2233d@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr F

NOTICE OF DECISION

I refer to your request of 7 May 2020 to the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA), which was transferred to the Department of Health (department) seeking access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to:

"Any documents containing:

- * dates,*
- * installation counts,*
- * operating system details,*
- * other statistics, charts or reports.*

relating to the COVIDSafe mobile tracing application.

This can be limited to after the public release date of 26th April 2020."

I am authorised under section 23(1) of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to Freedom of Information requests. I am writing to notify you of my decision on your request.

Decision

I have identified 17 documents falling within the terms of your request. The documents are set out in the schedule at Attachment A.

I have decided to give access to all documents subject to the deletion of irrelevant information as indicated in the attached schedule.

My reasons for this decision are set out at Attachment B.

Review rights

If you are dissatisfied with my decision, you may apply for an internal review or Australian Information Commissioner (Information Commissioner) review of the decision.

Internal review

Under section 54 of the FOI Act, you may apply in writing to the department for an internal review of my decision. The internal review application must be made within 30 days of the date of this notice (or such further period as the department allows). Where possible please provide reasons why you consider review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by another officer of this department within 30 days. An application for an internal review should be addressed to:

Email: FOI@health.gov.au

OR

Mail: FOI Unit (MDP 516)
Department of Health
GPO Box 9848
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Information Commissioner Review

Under section 54L of the FOI Act, you may apply to the Information Commissioner to review my decision. An application for review must be made in writing within 60 days of this notice (if you do not request an internal review).

The Australian Information Commissioner can be contacted by:

Email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au

Phone: 1300 363 992

More about the Information Commissioner review is available on the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) website at

<https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/reviews-and-complaints/information-commissioner-review/>

You may also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner about action taken by the department in relation to your application. Further information can be obtained from the OAIC website.

Relevant provisions

The FOI Act, including the provisions referred to in this letter, can be accessed from the Federal Register of Legislation website:

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020C00110>

Publication

You should be aware that where I have decided to release documents to you, the department may also publish the released material on its Disclosure Log. The department will however, not publish information (such as personal or business information) where it would be unreasonable to do so.

For your reference the department's Disclosure Log can be found at:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/foi-disclosure-log>

Additional Information


In your request of 7 May 2020 to the DTA, you requested, amongst other information, “*installation counts” for the COVIDSafe mobile tracing application. While the department does hold documents regarding “installation counts”, I can advise you, outside the FOI Act, that the Department does not collect the number of downloads or installations of the COVIDSafe App. Instead, the Department collects information about the number of registrations. I hope this additional information is useful.

Further, in your request you stated the documents to which you seek access could ‘be limited to after the public release date of 26th April 2020’. From Thursday, 30 April 2020, the department began receiving twice daily updates on the amount of registrations for the COVIDSafe app from the DTA. I hope this assists in explaining why the documents begin from the date period 30 April 2020 until the date of your request.

Contacts

If you require clarification of my decision under the FOI Act or any of the matters discussed in this letter, please contact the Freedom of Information Unit on (02) 6289 1666 or at FOI@health.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Daniel Keys
First Assistant Secretary
Information Technology Division

17 June 2020

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS - FOI-1716

ATTACHMENT A

Document no.	Date	Number of pages	Description	Decision on access ¹	Exemption
1	30.04.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 30 April	RI	Section 22
2	30.04.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 30 April	RI	Section 22
3	01.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 1 May	RI	Section 22
4	01.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 1 May	RI	Section 22
5	02.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 2 May	RI	Section 22
6	02.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 2 May	RI	Section 22
7	03.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 3 May	RI	Section 22
8	03.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 3 May	RI	Section 22
9	04.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 4 May	RI	Section 22
10	04.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 4 May	RI	Section 22
11	05.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 5 May	RI	Section 22
12	05.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 5 May	RI	Section 22
13	06.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 6 May	RI	Section 22
14	06.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 6 May	RI	Section 22
15	07.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (AM) 7 May	RI	Section 22
16	07.05.20	1	COVIDSafe registrations (PM) 7 May	RI	Section 22
17	05.05.20	1	5 Million Registrations (PM) 5 May	RI	Section 22

¹ E = Exempt, R = Release, RI = Release with irrelevant information removed, RE = Release with exempt information removed.

ATTACHMENT B

REASONS FOR DECISION

Material taken into account

In making my decision, I had regard to the following:

- the terms of your request;
- the content of the documents sought;
- advice from departmental officers with responsibility for matters relating to the documents sought;
- the relevant provisions of the FOI Act; and
- guidelines issued by the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act.

Finding of facts and reasons for decision

My findings of fact and reasons for deciding that the exemptions identified in the schedule of documents apply to the relevant documents or parts of documents are set out below.

Section 22 – deletion of irrelevant and/or exempt material

Section 22 of the FOI Act applies to documents containing exempt material (paragraph 22(1)(a)(i)) and irrelevant information (paragraph 22(1)(a)(ii)) and allows an agency to delete such material from a document.

I have deleted irrelevant material from the documents and prepared an edited copy for release. The documents contain telephone number of a DTA employee. As outlined when your request was acknowledged, this material is considered irrelevant to the scope of your request and I have deleted it.