

Our ref: CRM2014/541

21 July 2014

Ms Natasha Taylor

Dear Ms Taylor,

**Freedom of Information request re: the financial value of drug seizures between 2011-2014 and the prevalence of prostitution in Australia, and specifically NSW.**

I refer to your application dated 12 June 2014, under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act) seeking the following:

*"The financial worth of all drug seizures made nationally between the 2011-2014 financial years as well as records on the current prevalence of prostitution in Australia and specifically NSW as monitored by the AFP"*

Attached at Annexure A to this letter is my decision and statement of reasons for that decision. A "Schedule of Documents" identified as falling into the scope of your request is at Annexure B.

Please be advised that most of the data you are seeking is already publically available and can be found at the below links. For your ease of reference, I have attached copies of the relevant pages.

Drugs Data

- 2012-13 AFP Annual Report: <http://www.afp.gov.au/media-centre/publications/~media/afp/pdf/a/afp-annual-report-2012-2013.ashx>
- 2011-12 AFP Annual Report: <http://www.afp.gov.au/media-centre/publications/annual-reports/~media/afp/pdf/a/afp-annual-report-2011-2012.ashx>

Drug Harm Index

The attached paper provides background of the development and interpretation of the Drug Harm Index, which is a measure of the harm caused by illicit drugs. The attached file contains the relevant section only; the full article is available via this link:

- [http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/bulletin/2008/Bulletin2008\\_web.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/bulletin/2008/Bulletin2008_web.pdf)


Illicit Drugs Data Report

Street values by drug type are published by the Australian Crime Commission each year in the Australian Illicit Drugs Data Report. Links to the previous two reports are below. Within the report, street prices are broken down by state and a national range for street prices is also mentioned in each chapter.

The available reports can be found here:

- 2012-13: <https://www.crimecommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/290414-IDDR-2012-13.pdf>
- 2011-12: <https://www.crimecommission.gov.au/publications/intelligence-products/illicit-drug-data-report/illicit-drug-data-report-2011-12>

Please be advised with regards to your request for data on the prevalence of prostitution in Australia and specifically in NSW, as monitored by the AFP, the role of the AFP is to enforce Commonwealth criminal law and to protect Commonwealth and national interests from crime in Australia and overseas. Prostitution is not a Commonwealth offence and is instead an offence under state and territory legislation. Accordingly the AFP does not monitor the prevalence of prostitution in Australia; likewise the enforcement of prostitution laws does not fall within the remit of the AFP. The law enforcement responses to prostitution are matters which fall within the responsibility of state and territory police forces. As such, I recommend you refer your request for data on prostitution in NSW to the NSW Police Force.



Superintendent Allan J. Spencer  
Coordinator  
Information Access (Freedom of Information)  
Government Relations

**STATEMENT OF REASONS RELATING TO AN FOI REQUEST BY  
NAME OF APPLICANT**

I, Alan Spencer, Coordinator, Information Access Team, am an officer authorised under section 23 of the Act to make decisions in relation to the Australian Federal Police.

What follows is my decision and reasons for the decision in relation to your application.

**BACKGROUND**

On 12 June 2014, this office received your application in which you requested:

*"The financial worth of all drug seizures made nationally between the 2011-2014 financial years as well as records on the current prevalence of prostitution in Australia and specifically NSW as monitored by the AFP"*

**SEARCHES**

In relation to this request, the following searches for documents have been undertaken:

- a) a search of all records held by the relevant line areas within the AFP.

**DECISION**

I have identified one document relevant to your request. A schedule of the documents and details of my decision in relation to the document is at Annexure B.

I have decided that the documents itemised at Annexure B are released to you in its entirety.

**WAIVER OF CHARGES**

Further, given that the request has totalled only one page and was not a complex request to process, I am waiving any further fees and charges which are normally associated with the processing of applications under the Act.

**EVIDENCE/MATERIAL ON WHICH MY FINDINGS WERE BASED**

In reaching my decision, I have relied on the following documentary evidence:

- ❖ the scope of your application;
- ❖ the contents of the documents listed in the attached schedule;
- ❖ advice from AFP officers with responsibility for matters relating to the documents to which you sought access;
- ❖ *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;

- ❖ Guidelines issued by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; and
- ❖ Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.

## **REVIEW RIGHTS**

If you are dissatisfied with this decision you can apply for internal or Information Commissioner (IC) Review. You do not have to apply for Internal Review before seeking IC review.

### ***REVIEW RIGHTS under Part VI of the Act: Internal Review by the AFP***

Section 53A of the Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review in writing to this Department within 30 days of being notified of this decision.

No particular form is required but it would assist the decision-maker were you to set out in the application, the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed.

Applications for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

Government Relations  
Information Access Team  
Australian Federal Police  
GPO Box 401  
Canberra ACT 2601

### ***REVIEW RIGHTS under Part VII of the Act: Review by the Information Commissioner (IC)***

Alternatively, Section 54L of the Act gives you the right to apply directly to the IC or following an internal review by the AFP. In making your application you will need to provide an address for notices to be sent (this can be an email address) and a copy of the AFP decision. It would also help if you set out the reasons for review in your application.

Section 54S of the Act provides for the timeframes for an IC review submission. For an *access refusal decision* covered by subsection 54L(2), the application must be made within 60 days. For an *access grant decision* covered by subsection 54M(2), the application must be made within 30 days.

Applications for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner  
GPO Box 2999  
Canberra ACT 2601

### ***Right to Complain***

Section 70 of the Act provides that a person may complain to the IC about action taken by this Department in relation to your application.

A complaint to the IC may be made in writing and identify the agency against which the complaint is made.

The IC may be contacted on 1300 363 992. There is no particular form required to make a complaint, but the complaint should set out the grounds on which you consider the action should be investigated.

**SCHEDULE OF DECISION – CRM 2014/451**  
**RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS – Natasha Taylor**

<b>Document No</b>	<b>Folio No</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author/Addressee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Exemption/Public Interest Claimed</b>	<b>Reason</b>
1	1	18/4/14	Australian Federal Police (AFP)	Draft 2013/14 AFP Drug Seizure Statistics	Released in full: Folios: 1	N/A

Authorised Decision Maker:

Superintendent Allan J. Spencer  
 Coordinator  
 Information Access (Freedom of Information)  
 Government Relations  
 Australian Federal Police

Date of Decision:

21 July 2014