



## Australian Government

### Department of Health

Department Reference: FOI 1997

John Smith

via email: [foi+request-6759-f1371061@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-6759-f1371061@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Mr Smith

#### NOTICE OF DECISION UNDER SECTION 24A OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

I refer to your request of 28 September 2020 to the Department of Health (the department) seeking access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (the Act) in the following terms:

*The total number of 'service registrars', also known as 'unaccredited registrars' working in Australian hospitals across the country.*

*The average number of years worked by a service registrar, before eventual admission to a specialty training course; for each specialty.*

*Information on the typical working hours/salary received by a service registrar while working in a public hospital.*

#### FOI decision

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

Appropriate steps have been taken to find the documents referred to in your request including consultation with relevant departmental officers and searches of departmental file management systems.

I am satisfied, on the basis of the consultation undertaken and searches conducted, that the department does not hold any of the documents referred to in your request.

As a consequence, relying on subparagraph 24A(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, I cannot provide access to the documents you requested.

**FOI review rights**

If you are dissatisfied with my decision, you may apply for a review.

*Internal review*

Under section 54 of the 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). To assist in the internal review process, please provide reasons you consider review of my decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by another officer of this department within 30 days of receipt of your application.

An application for an internal review should be sent to:

Email: [FOI@health.gov.au](mailto:FOI@health.gov.au)  
Mail: FOI Unit (MDP 516)  
Department of Health  
GPO Box 9848  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

*Information Commissioner review*

Alternatively, under section 54L of the Act, you may apply to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for review of 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).

More information about OAIC review is available on the OAIC website at:

<https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/reviews/>

The OAIC can be contacted by:

Email: [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)  
Phone: 1300 363 992

You may also make a complaint to the OAIC about action taken by the department in relation to your application. Further information about this process is available on the OAIC website.

**Relevant provisions**

The 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/C2020C00246>

## **Additional information**

The department does not hold identifiable workforce data, as the Commonwealth does not employ “service registrars” or “unaccredited registrars”. However, the following information, provided outside the Act, may be of assistance to you.

Information that may be relevant to your request, including medical education and training report tables and publications is publicly available on the department’s website at the following links:

- <https://hwd.health.gov.au/met.html>
- <https://hwd.health.gov.au/publications.html>

In addition, the department hosts the Health Online Data Tool which provides more detailed information. Members of the public are welcome to create an account and access the information available using the following link:

- <https://hwd.health.gov.au/webapi/jsf/dataCatalogueExplorer.xhtml>

## **Contacts**

If you require clarification of any of the matters discussed in this letter you should contact the department’s Freedom of Information Unit on (02) 6289 1666 or at [FOI@health.gov.au](mailto:FOI@health.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



K Bishop  
Principal Lawyer  
Legal Advice & Legislation Branch

19 October 2020