



AFP

AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

INFORMATION ACCESS (FREEDOM OF INFORMATION)

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ABN 17 864 931 143

Our ref: CRM 2015/25

25 August 2014

Mr Ben Fairless

Email: foi+request-686-7dea8d94@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Fairless,

Freedom of Information request re: IPv4/v6 Public Facing addresses

I refer to your letter dated 16 July 2014, under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act) seeking the following:

"Records detailing the IPv4 (and if relevant, IPv6) addresses used to access the public internet from within the AFP network."

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.

Information Publication Scheme (IPS)

As notified to you on 17 July 2014 and in accordance with section 11C of the Act, it has been decided to publish the documents in full in respect of your request. Publication of the documents and any relevant documents will be made on the AFP website at <http://www.afp.gov.au/about-the-afp/information-publication-scheme/routine-y-requested-information.aspx> between 5 and 10 days after notification of this decision.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Ellery
Team Leader
Information Access (Freedom of Information)
Government Relations

STATEMENT OF REASONS RELATING TO AN FOI REQUEST BY BEN FAIRLESS

I, Jacqueline Ellery, Team Leader, 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 16 July 2014, this office received your letter in which you requested:

"Records detailing the IPv4 (and if relevant, IPv6) addresses used to access the public internet from within the AFP network."

On 21 August 2014, a further extension of time was granted by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) pursuant to section 15AC of the Act to notify you of a decision by 15 September 2014.

SEARCHES

In relation to this request, a search by AFP ICT for documents has been undertaken.

DECISION

I have identified one (1) document relevant to your request. A schedule of detailing my decision is at Annexure B.

I have decided that the document that relates to your request is released with deletions pursuant to subsection 22(1)(a)(ii), 33(a)(i) and 47E(d) of the Act.

My reasons for this decision are set out below.

REASONS FOR DECISION

I find that the document relevant to your request is partially exempt under the provisions of the Act, as set out in the Schedule, for the reasons outlined below.

Folios to which subsection 22(1)(a)(ii) apply:

Subsection 22(1)(a)(ii) of the Act provides that:

- "(1) Where:
 - (a) an agency or Minister decides:
 - (ii) that to grant a request for access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to that request;"

The parts of documents identified in the Schedule as exempt under this section of the Act contain information which is considered irrelevant to the request. I have determined that information should be deemed to be exempt because it does not come within the scope of your application and thus falls outside the ambit of your request. By way of further explanation, the document covers information which refers to other issues which are not mentioned in your FOI application.

I find that release of the parts of the documents would be an unreasonable disclosure under subsection 22(1)(a)(ii) of the Act.

Folios to which subsection 33(a)(i) apply:

Subsection 33(a)(i) of the Act provides that:

"A document is an exempt document if disclosure of the document under this Act:

- (a) would, or could reasonably be expected to, cause damage to:*
 - (i) the security of the Commonwealth*

The parts of documents identified in the schedule as exempt under this section of the act relates to information regarding the security of the Commonwealth. The information, if released, provides 'hackers' with a targeted address at which an attack to the AFP ICT systems can be launched. The loss or compromise of information as a result of damage to ICT systems would therefore affect the conduct of AFP operations which would impact on the security of the Commonwealth.

I find that release of the parts of the documents would be an unreasonable disclosure under subsection 33(a)(i) of the Act.

Folios to which subsection 47E(d) apply:

Subsection 47E(d) of the Act provides that:

"A document is conditionally exempt if its disclosure under this Act would, or could reasonably be expected to, do any of the following:

- ...*
- (d) have a substantial adverse effect on the proper and efficient conduct of the operations of an agency;..."*

The parts of documents identified in the schedule as exempt under this section of the Act contain information, the release of which would have a substantial adverse effect on the conduct of AFP operations.

I have considered the public interest factors both in favour and against disclosure of the information in these folios.

In relation to the factors favouring disclosure, I believe the following are relevant:

- (a) the general public interest in access to documents as expressed in sections 3 and 11 of the FOI Act; and
- (b) the public interest in people being able to scrutinise the operations of a government agency and in promoting governmental accountability and transparency.

In relation to the factors against disclosure, I believe that the following are relevant:

- (c) the need for the agency to maintain the confidentiality with regard to the subject matter;
- (d) that if information was revealed, it may have a substantial adverse effect on the conduct of the AFP in the future; and
- (e) if such information was disclosed, it may prejudice security, law enforcement and public safety.

While there is a public interest in providing access to documents held by the AFP, I have given greater weight to factors (c), (d) and (e) above and conclude that on balance, disclosure is not in the public interest, given the need to ensure public safety during police operations and the effectiveness of current procedures. I find that release of the parts of the documents would be an unreasonable disclosure under subsection 47E(d) of 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;
- ❖ consultation with relevant Commonwealth Agencies;
- ❖ *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.

**** YOU SHOULD READ THIS GENERAL ADVICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982.**

REVIEW AND COMPLAINT RIGHTS

If you are dissatisfied with a Freedom of Information decision made by the Australian Federal Police, you can apply for an internal or Information Commissioner (IC) Review. You do not have to apply for Internal Review before seeking an IC review.

You do not need to seek a review by either the AFP or the IC should you wish to complain about the AFP's actions in processing your request.

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 the Australian Federal Police (AFP) within 30 days of being notified of a decision. No particular form is required. It would assist the independent AFP decision-maker responsible for the internal review if you set out in the application, the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed.

Section 54B of the Act provides that the internal review submission must be made within 30 days. Applications for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

Government Relations
Information Access (FOI)
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 under Part VIIB of the Act

Section 70 of the Act provides that a person may complain to the IC about action taken by the Australian Federal Police 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 2015/25
RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS – BEN FAIRLESS

Document No	Folio No	Date	Author	Description	Exemption	Reason
1	1-5	20.8.14	Australian Federal Police (AFP)	Email correspondence	Released with deletions: 22(1)(a)(ii), 33(a)(i), 47E(d) Folios: 2, 4 Exempt in full: 22(1)(a)(ii) Folios: 1, 3 Released in full: Folios: 5	s22(1)(a)(ii) Exempted material would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request. s33(a)(i) Deletions are made on the grounds that disclosure would, or could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the security of the Commonwealth. s47E(d) Exempted material would disclose information that would have a substantial adverse effect on the proper and efficient conduct of the operations of the AFP and would be contrary to the public interest. Access must be given unless it would be contrary to the public interest.

Authorised Decision Maker:


Jacqueline Ellery
Team Leader
Information Access (Freedom of Information)
Government Relations
Australian Federal Police

Date of Decision:

 25 August 2015

Page 1 redacted for the following reason:

22(1)(a)(ii)

THIS DOCUMENTS IS RELEASED
BY THE
AUSTRALIA FEDERAL POLICE
UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Smith, Damien

Sent: Tuesday, 22 July 2014 5:33 PM

To: 47E(d) Rowley, Tony

Cc: Macleod, Scott

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Request - Ben Fairless CRM2015/25 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi John,

33(a)(i), 47E(d) provide our gateway services. 33(a)(i), 47E(d) outwards facing IP addresses of 33(a)(i), 47E(d) for all of our general public internet.

Tony,

This is a FOI request. I request your approval to submit this.

22(1)(a)(ii)

22(1)(a)(ii)

Respectfully



MR DAMIEN SMITH
COORDINATOR NETWORK & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
Tel +61(0) 2 61314442 Mob +61(0) 47F
www.afp.gov.au

Page 3 redacted for the following reason:

22(1)(a)(ii)

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UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

22(1)(a)(ii)

-----Original Message-----

From: Ben Fairless [<mailto:foi+request-686-7dea8d94@righttoknow.org.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 16 July 2014 7:15 PM

To: FOI

Subject: Freedom of Information request - IT Network Documentation - IPv4/v6 Public Facing addresses

Dear Australian Federal Police,

I am writing to you to request information pertaining to your Information Technology infrastructure.

Namely, I am after records detailing the IPv4 (and if relevant, IPv6) addresses used to access the public internet from within your network.

To clarify, these are the public facing addresses of your private network. I am only requesting addresses that are used to access the general public internet.

In addition, if it is such that a particular IP address serves a particular area within your department (for example, one IP address is used for Media Relations, while another is used for Ministerial Communications), I also request access to this information.

To assist you in locating this information, I suggest it would be found in network documentation, or at the very least in configuration files of your router and firewall equipment.

Please do not hesitate to reply if you require clarification to fulfil this request.

I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,

Ben Fairless

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
foi+request-686-7dea8d94@righttoknow.org.au

Is foi@afp.gov.au the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to Australian Federal Police?
If so, please contact us using this form:
https://www.righttoknow.org.au/change_request/new?body=afp

Write your response as plain text. Only send PDF documents as a last resort. Government guidelines make it clear that PDF is not an acceptable format for you to use in the delivery of government information.
<https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers#pdf>

This request is being made by an individual using the Right to Know website. The unique email address provided by the service for this request satisfies s.15(2)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:
<https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers>

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UNCLASSIFIED