Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

14/10786
FOI14/159

14 August 2014

Mr Ben Fairless
Sent via email: foi+request-731-78eebb2d@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Fairless

Freedom of Information Request no. FOI14/159

I refer to your request under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) for access to documents relating to the Department's processing of your previous FOI request (FOI14/139) about IPv4 and IPv6 addresses. Specifically, you sought access to all documents that relate to:

- *the FOI/Administrative Access requests made via Right to Know for information relating to IP addresses used to access the internet*
- *requests from other Government departments to the Attorney-General's Department seeking advice in relation to the release of IP address information under FOI.*
- *advice provided by technical experts within the Department to inform any advice provided by the Department to other agencies.*

I am writing to advise you of my decision that you are liable to pay a charge in respect of the processing of your request. I, Frances Brown, am an officer authorised under subsection 23(1) of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests.

In accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act and the *Freedom of Information Charges Regulations 1982*, my preliminary assessment of the charge you are liable to pay is $319.25.

Basis for my preliminary assessment of the charge

I have assessed the work Attorney-General's Department would need to do to process your request and have calculated the following breakdown of charges:

Document estimate	
Number of relevant documents	69
Number of relevant pages (or other size descriptor)	169

PROCESSING CHARGES
Search and retrieval

Task	Time	Cost @ $15/hr
Search and retrieval of relevant electronic and registry files	0.33	$5.00
Search and retrieval of relevant pages in file	1.50	$22.50
Preparation of schedule of documents	3.45	$51.75
A. Search and retrieval subtotal	***5.28***	***$79.25***

Decision making		
Task	**Time**	**Cost @ $20/hr**
Examination of documents	5.00	$100.00
Consultation with third parties	0	$0.00
Preparation of documents for release	8	$160.00
Preparation of notice of access decision	4	$80.00
Decision making subtotal (before deduction of 5 hours)	**17.00**	**$340.00**
B. Decision making subtotal (after deduction of first 5 hours free)	***12***	***$240.00***

ACCESS AND DELIVERY CHARGES		
	No. of pages	**Cost**
Transcription ($4.40/page)	0	$0.00
Photocopy ($0.10/page)	0	$0.00
Other copies ($4.40/page)	0	$0.00
		Cost
Electronic production (actual cost)	0	$0.00
Replay [replaying of sound or film] (actual cost)	0	$0.00
Delivery (actual cost)	0	$0.00
	Time	**Cost**
Inspection (@ $6.25 per half hour)	0	$0.00
C. Access and delivery charges subtotal	***0***	***$0.00***

ESTIMATED TOTALS AND DEPOSIT	
ESTIMATED TOTAL (total of A, B and C)	**$319.25**
REQUIRED DEPOSIT	**$79.81**

I have identified the following documents as being within the scope of your request: correspondence between the Department and yourself, correspondence between other

government agencies and yourself, internal Departmental emails and emails between the Department and other government agencies.

Your right to contend the charge

Under the FOI Act, you have the right to contend that the charge:

- has been wrongly assessed, or
- should be reduced, or
- should not be imposed.

In deciding whether a charge should be reduced or not imposed, the decision maker in our agency must take into account:

- whether payment of the charge, or part of it, would cause you financial hardship
- whether giving access to the documents is in the general public interest or in the interest of a substantial section of the public
- any other relevant matter.

Payment of a deposit

As the charge exceeds $100, a 25 per cent deposit (**$79.81**) will be sought if the charge is imposed.

The deposit is not refundable except in some limited circumstances (for example, if the Department fails to make a decision on your request within the statutory time limit), or may be refundable in part if the final charge is less than the deposit paid.

The time you have to respond and what you need to do

You have 30 days to respond in writing to this notice. We therefore expect a response from you by 12 September 2014. By that date, you must do one of the following things in writing:

- agree to pay the charge (this will mean that you will not be entitled to access the requested documents until the full charge is paid)
- contend that the charge has been wrongly assessed, or should be reduced or not imposed and explain your reasons
- withdraw your request.

Please send your response to:

email: foi@ag.gov.au
post: Freedom of Information and Privacy Section
Office of Corporate Counsel
Attorney-General's Department
3-5 National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600

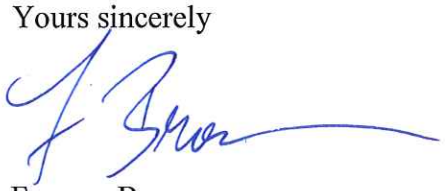
If you do not provide us with a written response by 12 September 2014 your request will be taken to have been withdrawn.

The period for processing your request is suspended from the day that you receive this notice and resumes on either the day you pay the charge (in full or the required deposit) or the day on which this agency makes a decision not to impose a charge.

Questions about this notice

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this notice with us, please contact Joannah Burley, FOI Case Manager on 02 6141 6666 or by email foi@ag.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Frances Brown
Director, Freedom of Information and Privacy Section