

Mr Ben Fairless  
Right to Know

Dear Mr Fairless

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) for access to:

*“1. A copy of all documents held by the Ministers office in relation to LGBTI or IDAHOBIT created in 2021. These include:*

- Documents held electronically in computer systems*
- Documents that exist in Instant Messaging applications*
- Documents that exist in non-official applications such as WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal and others.*

*2. A copy of any comments or correspondence made in relation to any of the drafts of the directive referred to by the ABC.*

*3. A copy of any document in relation to the story published by the ABC, including any request for comment or sign off prior to publication.*

*3. A copy of any correspondence anyone (including a member of the public) that relates to LGBTI or IDAHOBIT in 2021.”*

## **FOI DECISION MAKER**

I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

## **DOCUMENTS IDENTIFIED**

I identified documents matching the description of the request.

To avoid a practical refusal notice, I have interpreted your request to be seeking documents from the date of the ABC article you quoted in your request (21 May 2021) to the date of the submission of your request (26 May 2021).

## **EXCLUSIONS**

Personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeyS numbers and mobile telephone numbers contained in documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request, duplicates of documents, and documents sent to or from the applicant are excluded from this request. Defence has only considered final versions of documents.

## **DECISION**

I have decided to release the documents in full in accordance with section 22 [access to edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted] of the FOI Act.

**Material taken into account**

1. In making my decision, I had regard to:
  - a. the terms of the request;
  - b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
  - c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
  - d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Dalgleish', written in a cursive style.

Alexander Dalgleish  
Accredited Decision Maker  
Office of the Minister for Defence

9 August 2021