



Australian Government
International Air Services Commission

FOI reference number: IASC 22-001

Mr Lucas Baird

Via email: Right to Know: foi+request-7576-0648468f@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Baird

Decision made under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

I refer to your email request to the International Air Services Commission (**the IASC**) received, via the Right to Know website, on 13 July 2021 seeking access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (**the FOI Act**). Your request sought access to:

1. *Any and all communications between IASC and any airlines about securing them as the preferred provider of travel services to the regulator for financial year 2021 and financial year 2022.*
2. *Any log of gifts as accrued to regulatory staff from the airlines, including upgrades, lounge access and any other hospitality.*

Authority

I am an officer authorised to make decisions about access to documents in the possession of the IASC in accordance with s 23(1) of the FOI Act.

Decision on access to documents

In relation to item 1 of your request, I can confirm that there has been no communication between the IASC and any airlines about securing them as the preferred provider of travel services to the regulator for financial years 2021 and 2022.

The IASC has taken all reasonable steps to identify and locate any relevant document within the scope of your FOI request and no document has been located. A search of shared IT drives, and shared email in-boxes and a search of hard copy files was undertaken for relevant documents. No files were located that appeared to be relevant to the subject of the FOI request. I am therefore satisfied that no document exists within the scope of your request in regards to item 1.

In relation to item 2 of your request, a search of shared IT drives, and shared email in-boxes and a search of hard copy files was undertaken. A Register of Interests of the IASC from 2013 to date indicates that certain Commissioners, but not all, have accepted Virgin Australia's offer of membership to the Virgin Australia Chairman's Lounge (The

Club). The membership to the Virgin Australia Chairman's Lounge also extends to their partners and details are below:

Date and Position	Gift accepted
July 2013 - Chairperson	Membership in The Chairman's Lounge (Qantas) and The Club (Virgin Australia)
December 2013 – Chairperson	Membership in The Chairman's Lounge (Qantas) and The Club (Virgin Australia)
December 2013 – Commissioner	Accepted Membership in The Club (Virgin Australia)
December 2013 – Commissioner	Accepted Membership in The Club (Virgin Australia)
2017 – Chairperson	Renewal of Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club
2017 – Commissioner	Continues to be a member of Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club [<i>Gift initially received through individual's previous employment</i>]
2017 – Commissioner	Accepted Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club
2018 – Chairperson	Renewal of Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club
2018 – Commissioner	Continues to be a member of Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club [<i>Gift initially received through individual's previous employment</i>]
2018 – Commissioner	Renewal of Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club
2020 – Chairperson	Renewal of Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club
2020 – Commissioner	Renewal of Membership to Virgin Australia's Chairman's Club

Your rights of review

If you wish to seek an internal review, you must apply to the IASC within **30 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. An application for internal review must be made in writing by post or via email to: FOI@infrastructure.gov.au.

Alternatively, you may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to review this decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within **60 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. You can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the IASC handled your request. You can find information about requesting a review, making a complaint, and other

information about FOI on the OAIC website www.oaic.gov.au or phone the OAIC on 1300 363 992.

Contact

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me us via email on FOI@infrastructure.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Marlene Tucker
Executive Director
International Air Services Commission

19 July 2021