



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

FOI reference number: 22-013

Mr John Smith
Right to Know
Via email: foi+request-7641-c7369bb1@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Smith

Decision made under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 – Nil documents

I refer to your request to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (**the Department**) received via the Right to Know website on 31 July 2021 for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (**the FOI Act**). Your FOI request sought access to:

The specifications of the flag of Christmas Island and the flag of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, similar to the specification of the flag of the Northern Territory. (https://nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/389336/nt-flag-specifications.pdf)

Authority

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

Decision on access to documents

The Department has taken all reasonable steps to identify and locate relevant documents within the scope of your FOI request and no documents have been located.

The Department undertook thorough searches to ascertain if any relevant documents could be found. The request was provided to the relevant line areas within the department with responsibility for external territories as well as relevant senior executive. Searches were undertaken on departmental record management systems, email accounts and hard copy files and no relevant documents were located to be within the scope of your request.

A search was also undertaken on the Department's ministerial correspondence system and no relevant documents were found.

I am therefore satisfied that no documents exist that are within the scope of your request and have therefore decided to refuse your request under s 24A(1) of the FOI Act on the ground that the requested documents do not exist.

As the Department does not hold any documents relevant to your request you may wish to approach the Shire of Christmas Island and the Shire of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands that may hold relevant information and may be able to respond to your query. These entities can be contacted as per the details provided below:

Shire of Christmas Island

Email: admin@shire.gov.au

Postal:

PO Box 863

Christmas Island WA 6798

Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Email: info@cocos.wa.gov.au

Postal:

PO Box 1094

Cocos (Keeling) Islands WA 6799

Your rights of review

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

Alternatively, you may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to review my 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 Department 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.

Contacts

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact the Department's FOI Coordinator on (02) 6274 7393 or via email at FOI@infrastructure.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Jadranka Matijas
Acting Assistant Secretary
Indian Ocean Territories Branch
26 August 2021

