

FOI Health (HEALTH)

From: FOI Health (HEALTH)
Sent: Monday, 20 December 2021 1:45 PM
To: foi+request-8214-a7c6ecf5@righttoknow.org.au
Subject: Freedom of Information - F21/2403 - Invalid request - Application fee required

Dear Mr Haluska

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

"the figures for advertising, in total, for covid and covid related advertising for the years 2019 and 2020"

Your application was received on 20 December 2021.

Invalid request – Application fee required

The Act provides that an application fee of \$30.10 must accompany each request. In the current circumstances, the department's preferred method of payment is via the Victorian Government's online FOI portal at the below link:

<https://online.foi.vic.gov.au/foi/request.doj>

Please quote your reference number (**F21/2403**) in the "Request Details" section of the online form. You do not need to provide the wording of your request again.

The Act also provides that the application fee may be waived or reduced if payment of the fee would cause financial hardship. If you consider this to be the case the fee may be waived or reduced on production of evidence of how the payment of the application fee would cause you hardship.

As stated on the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner's website, an applicant should provide evidence of hardship when they are requesting an agency to waive or reduce the application fee:

'If you request the application fee to be waived or reduced, you should provide evidence of hardship – for example, a concession or health care card, a bank statement, or statutory declaration outlining why payment would cause you hardship.'

Please note your request cannot proceed until the application fee or evidence of hardship has been received as it is not a valid request.

I would appreciate it if you would respond by **Wednesday 12 January 2022**, otherwise I will assume that you do not wish to proceed and no further action will be taken by the department.

Anticipated delays in processing

Please also note that, due to a high volume of requests, we are currently experiencing significant delays in processing times. Once you have made your request valid, you may be contacted in the course of processing your request to seek an extension of time for providing a decision on your request.

Thank you very much for your patience and understanding.

If you have any questions in relation to your request, please direct all correspondence relating to your request to foi@health.vic.gov.au.

Kind Regards,

Authorised Officer | Freedom of Information

Legal, Privacy and Integrity

Department of Health

www.health.vic.gov.au

We acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay our respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future.



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