

25 January 2022
Ms Eliza Sorensen

By email: foi+request-8305-422a75a9@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Ms Eliza Sorensen,

We are writing in relation to the request you made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) on 14 January 2022 (FOI request).

We would like to provide further information about an aspect of your FOI request.

The wording of your FOI request is:

'I am requesting all documents which are:

- generated by or received by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, or by the eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant acting in her professional capacity, or by the agents of the Office who handle invitations and communications functions (whether those functions are in-house or outsourced);
- including internal or external correspondence, meeting requests, briefings or research, database entries, diary or calendar notes, minutes of meetings, policies or manuals, accommodation or travel documentation, invoices or receipts, and/or delegations of work;
- covering the period beginning 1 January 2017, and ending on the date you confirm your receipt of this FOI request;

relating to the topic described below:

I refer you to an email dated 22 September 2021 from a staff member of eSafety to Julie Inman Grant. This document was released as "Document 4" in response to my previous FOI request relating to the eSafety Commissioner's engagement with the organisation NCOSE (National Centre on Sexual Exploitation).

In that document, the unidentified staff member says:

"I looked into this earlier because this podcast/interview did not go via media or invites - although we had one for CESE back in early July so it's quite possible I was on leave when it was going through the invitations discussion.

[...]

We did a hunt on NCOSE. I know that we have participated with them before as I remember [redacted] has spoken of them."

I am seeking all documents relating to the engagement with NCOSE referred to by the staff member in this email. It appears from context the staff member is referring to a different event than the "Ending Sexual Exploitation" podcast recorded in July in connection with NCOSE's CESE (Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation) Summit.'

We understand from your request that you are interested in all documents relating to any engagement eSafety has had with NCOSE other than in respect of the "Ending Sexual Exploitation" podcast during the period outlined in your request, as it was suggested by an eSafety staff member in document 4 of

the previous FOI request dated 22 November 2021 (previous FOI request) that eSafety has previously engaged with NCOSE.

Clarification

eSafety has not engaged with NCOSE other than in respect of the "Ending Sexual Exploitation" podcast.

We have taken all reasonable steps to search our records and we have engaged with relevant staff. eSafety has no documents regarding any engagement with NCOSE other than in respect of the "Ending Sexual Exploitation" podcast.

The comment in the email in document 4 of the previous FOI request stating, "We did a hunt on NCOSE. I know that we have participated with them before as I remember [redacted] has spoken of them", was a misunderstanding on the part of the relevant eSafety staff member who wrote the email.

We apologise for the confusion this has created.

Next steps

We wanted to clarify the reference in the previous FOI request before we begin processing your request.

While we can process your request, given the scope relates to engagement eSafety has had with NCOSE other than in respect of the "Ending Sexual Exploitation" podcast, there will be no documents in scope.

We wanted to provide you the opportunity to withdraw your request. You may also choose to submit a new request. If you submit a new request, we encourage you to consider the scope of your previous FOI request relating to NCOSE and the documents that have already been released for that request.

We welcome your feedback and would also welcome the opportunity to discuss your FOI request with you.

Please contact the FOI Coordinator at FOI@esafety.gov.au.

Kind regards,

FOI Coordinator

eSafety Commissioner