# Freedom of Information Reviews

Factsheet

If you are not satisfied with the department's decision under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, you have the right to seek a review of this decision by the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner (the Commissioner).

## Decisions which can be reviewed

The Commissioner can review the following decisions:

- · refusal to grant access to documents or parts of documents
- deferral of access to documents
- the amendment of personal records
- refusal to waive an application fee.

Please note that the Commissioner is unable to review exemptions under section 29A (documents affecting national security, defence or international relations. Reviews of decisions made under section 29A are conducted by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT). Contact details are:

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) 55 King Street Melbourne Vic 3000 Tel: <u>1300 01 8228</u>

### **Timeframes for reviews**

An application for review must be made within 28 days of you receiving the decision. The only exception to this is where the agency has denied access under section 36 of the Health Records Act 2001. Requests for reviews of these decisions must be made within 70 days.



Department of Health

#### How to request a review

Requests for review must be made in writing within 28 days of receiving the department's decision and addressed to:

Victorian Information Commissioner Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner PO Box 24274 Melbourne Victoria 3001 Phone: 1300 006 842 enguiries@ovic.vic.gov.au

Review application forms are available on the Commissioner's website: www.ovic.vic.gov.au

#### If you are not satisfied with the Commissioner's decision

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the Commissioner's review, you may appeal to VCAT for review.

To receive this publication in an accessible format phone (03) 9096 8449, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or <u>email foi@health.vic.gov.au</u>

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

© State of Victoria, Department of Health, February 2021.

This fact sheet was created by the Department of Health for information purposes only. It is not a replacement for independent legal advice.

