



January 2023

Tyler

By email: foi+request-9801-cf775b0f@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Tyler

Re. Freedom of Information Request

The purpose of this letter is to give you a decision about access to documents that you requested under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act).

On 18 January 2023, you requested access to:

*'...any documents which confirm what is to be listed as issuing authority/authority on the new Australian passport R series to be issued in the following countries: USA, Canada, UK, Portugal and Japan. (That is application would be lodged at an Australian embassy/consulate in these countries)
Please also confirm the above for current P series passports.'*

I am authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests and have been appointed to be the decision-maker on your request.

Searches conducted by the Australian Passport Office found no documents matching the description of the documents you have identified in your request.

After taking all reasonable steps to find documents, I am satisfied that they do not exist. I therefore refuse your request under section 24A(1) of the FOI Act.

Additional information

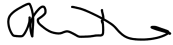
Although the department does not hold documents that match the scope of your FOI request, the department provides the following additional information for your consideration. I note that this does not form part of the reasons for decision.

In Australian travel documents, the entry in the 'Authority' field says 'Australia', no matter where the application is lodged or where the document is issued. This practice was in place during the P Series and continues for the R Series

Your review rights are attached for your reference.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter please contact the FOI Section by email to: foi@dfat.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AR' followed by a flourish.

Amanda Riethmuller
A/g Director
Freedom of Information Section

Internal review

You may apply for internal review of the decision ([section 54 of the FOI Act](#)). The internal review application must be made within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

Where possible, please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by another officer within 30 days.

Any request for internal review should be directed via email to foi@dfat.gov.au or addressed to:

Freedom of Information Section
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R G Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221
Australia

Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply within 60 days of the date of this letter to the Australian Information Commissioner to review my decision ([section 54L of the FOI Act](#)). You may also make a complaint to the Australian Information Commissioner about the Department's actions in relation to this decision ([section 70 of the FOI Act](#)). Making such a complaint about the way the Department has handled your FOI request is a separate process to seeking review of my decision.

Further information on applying for an Australian Information Commissioner review is available at: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-review-process>

Further information about how to make a complaint is available at: <http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-complaints>