

Our ref: FOI-2023-10023

22 March 2023

Stephen

Emailed to: foi+request-9891-c0afee84@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Stephen

Freedom of Information request – Full access decision

I refer to your email dated 5 February 2023, in which you requested access to a document/documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act). Your request was framed in the following way:

'I request access to the records of the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman's legal services expenditures for the 2021-2022 financial year'

This letter constitutes notice of my decision on your request for access. I am authorised to make decisions on behalf of our Office under s 23 of the FOI Act.

Decision

Our Office identified one (1) document relevant to your request. I have decided to grant you access to this document.

A schedule setting out the relevant documents is at **Attachment A**. Our Office identified the documents by searching our electronic records management system.

I **attach** the relevant document you requested with this notice.

Review rights

Internal review

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you are entitled to seek review of this decision.

Under s 54 of the FOI Act, you may apply for an internal review of the decision within 30 days of you receiving this notice. An internal review will be conducted by a different officer from the original decision-maker.

No particular form is required to apply for review although it will assist your case to set out in the application the grounds on which you believe that the original decision should be changed. An application for a review of the decision should be made:

- via email to information.access@ombudsman.gov.au
- by mail to Commonwealth Ombudsman GPO Box 442 Canberra ACT 2601

If you choose to seek an internal review, you will afterward have a right to apply to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for a review of the internal review decision.

Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

Under s 54M of the FOI Act, you may apply to the OAIC to review my decision. An application for review by the OAIC must be made in writing within 60 days of the decision date, either from the date of this letter or the date of our internal review decision letter. Your request can be lodged in one of the following ways:

- online at www.oaic.gov.au/about-us/contact-us
- via email to foidr@oaic.gov.au
- by overland mail to GPO Box 5218 Sydney NSW 2001
- in person to Level 3, 175 Pitt Street Sydney NSW 2000

More information about the OAIC review process is available at its website:
www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-review-process

Complaints to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may complain to the OAIC about action taken by the Ombudsman in relation to your FOI request.

While there is no particular form required to make a complaint to the OAIC, the complaint should be in writing and set out the reasons for why you are dissatisfied with the way your request was processed. It should also identify the Ombudsman's Office as the agency about which you are complaining.

You may lodge your complaint either:

- online at www.oaic.gov.au
- by mail to GPO Box 5218 Sydney NSW 2001
- by email to enquiries@oaic.gov.au.

Contacts

You may contact me via email at information.access@ombudsman.gov.au or via telephone on 1300 362 072.

Yours sincerely

David Yalpi

Legal Team

Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

Schedule of Documents – Freedom of Information Request FOI-2023-10023

Doc No.	Date	Pages	Description of Document	Decision on access	Exemption
1.	1 September 2022	10	Legal Services Expenditure Report 21-22	<i>Released in full</i>	N/A