



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Reference: R25744612

FOI 269/15/16 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

Item 1: The documents I seek are Capability Technology Management College (CTMC) Advisory Board (CAB) minutes for CAB meetings held from 1 Jan 2013 to 1 Mar 2016.

Item 2: I am seeking the Program Management Board (PMB) minutes that informs the CAB minutes for meetings held 1 Jan 2013 to 1 Mar 2016 and its terms of reference. (note, I only have PMB as an acronym in emails but have assumed its full title is the Program Management Board).

Item 3: Documentation that advises the three services (Army, Navy and Air Force) VCDF group or the APS of outcomes of the CAB and/or PMB meetings for the dates above including acknowledgment by the groups of the said advice."

Personal information disclaimer

2. The Department excludes personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeys numbers and mobile telephone numbers, contained in documents that fall within the scope of a FOI request unless you specifically request such details. Defence also excludes duplicates of documents.

3. I have been advised by the FOI Directorate that the applicant has not specifically requested any personal information identified in the above paragraph.

FOI decision maker

4. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

5. I identified 19 documents as matching the description of the request. The details of the documents are listed in the schedule of documents at Enclosure 1.

6. Please note that documents requested at Item 3 of the request are covered by documents in Items 1 and 2.

Decision

7. I have decided to release the identified 19 documents in full with deletions under section 22 [edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted] of the FOI Act.

8. I have added an FOI reference, Item and Serial number to each of the documents, which corresponds with the schedule.

Material taken into account

9. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- a. the terms of the request;
 - b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
 - c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
 - d. the *Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act* (the Guidelines).

Reasons for decision

Section 22 – Edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted

10. Section 22 of the FOI Act provides that if an agency or Minister decides to:

(i) refuse access to an exempt document; or

(ii) that to give access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request for access;

and it is reasonably practicable to prepare a copy of the document modified by deletions, the agency or Minister must give the applicant access to the edited copy.

11. Upon examination of the documents, I considered that the material, in the form of personal signatures, would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the scope of the request. As such, in accordance with subparagraph 22(1)(a)(ii) of the FOI Act, I have decided to remove the material, and release the documents in that form.



Gordon A. Andrew
Captain, RAN
Accredited Decision Maker
VCDF Group

18 May 2016