



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Reference: Objective ID: R26662603

FOI 366/15/16 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the email of 29 June 2016, in which [REDACTED] sought an internal review under section 54 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) of the decision by Mr Desmond Healey, Director First Principles Review – Defence People, dated 23 June 2016.

2. The applicant's request was for access to the following documents under the FOI Act:

'documents which represent the actual uploaded complaints by those accessing the Defence Complaints Management, Tracking and Reporting System (ComTrack) and dated within the two months prior to this application, where the incident which is the subject of the complaint occurred in South Australia, but with the identity of any individuals involved redacted'

Contentions

3. In summary, the applicant requested a review of Mr Healey's decision to deny access to three documents under section 47E(d) [Public interest conditional exemptions – certain operations of agencies] of the FOI Act.

4. The purpose of this letter is to provide the applicant with a fresh decision relating to the documents that are the subject of the application for internal review.

Reviewing officer

5. I am authorised to make this internal review decision under arrangements approved by the Secretary for Defence under section 23 of the FOI Act.

Decision and documents subject to internal review

6. Upon review, I found Document 3 does not fall within the scope of the request as the incident did not occur in South Australia. The complaint was referred to and managed by higher headquarters in South Australia.

7. Taking into account the above, two documents are subject to the internal review: Document 1 and Document 2.

Internal review decision

8. I have decided to vary Mr Healey's decision by removing information considered irrelevant to the request under subparagraph 22(1)(a)(ii) [Access to edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted] of the FOI Act and to release the remaining information intact.

9. The material considered irrelevant is information which could reveal the identity of the individuals involved, either directly or by a mosaic effect, which is not what the applicant

seeks as specifically stated in the scope '*but with the identity of any individuals involved redacted*'.

10. Please find attached the documents in the form approved for release.

Tony.Brown
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Digitally signed by Tony.Brown2
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Dr Tony Brown
Accredited Decision Maker – Internal Review

27 July 2016