

**From:** [Davies, Peter GPCAPT](#) s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF FOI](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for ADM - 1 x FOI Case 459/21/22 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Friday, 6 May 2022 12:46:05 PM

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**OFFICIAL**

s47E(c) – I'll take this one.

regards,

s47E(c)

Peter R Davies, CSC  
GPCAPT  
COS HQACG

HQ Air Combat Group  
LWB-04-058  
RAAF Base  
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

+ s47E(c) (W)  
s22 (M)

DSN/SIPR: [peter.davies](#) s47E(c)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** 6 May 2022 12:37  
**To:** Davies, Peter GPCAPT s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF FOI <raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au>  
**Subject:** Request for ADM - 1 x FOI Case 459/21/22 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Ma'am(s) and Sir(s),

We have a FOI case on the books which I am currently seeking your availability for.  
The scope of the request are as follows:

**FOI 459/21/22** – s47F [REDACTED] has requested the following information:

*"I kindly request a copy of all emails, sent to/from / bcc/cc'd Defence Space Commander Air Vice-Marshal Catherine Roberts for the period 25 June 2021 to 15 April 2022 (inclusive), that contain any of the following keywords: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena; UAP; Unidentified Flying Object; UFO; Unidentified Flying Objects; UFOs; Unauthorised Aircraft Movement; UAM; Unauthorised Aircraft Movements; UAMs; Unusual Aerial Sighting, Unidentified Phenomena. I also kindly request that personal details be limited to the full names of individuals involved in any applicable FOI response."*

**FYSA:** This is a media / sensitive case and will be processed within the timeframes stipulated in the attached Media / Sensitive requests – Ministerial & senior staff alerts & processes.

**Due dates:** Draft documents are due to DFOI by **COB Tuesday 31 May 2022**, with final documents due to DFOI by **COB Wednesday 01 June 2022**.

Your advice on availability to assist is appreciated. Please cc all on responses for awareness.

Kind regards

s47E(c) [REDACTED]

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

 s47E(c) [REDACTED] | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

 [Chief of Staff AFHQ - Freedom of Information](#)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220527 - Email - s47E(c) - FOI 459/21/22 - Documents in scope (fBP4127873)  
**Date:** Friday, 27 May 2022 3:37:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOI 459 21 22 - Documents in scope.obr](#)

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OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c),

I've dropped three documents in the attached folder:

1. "FOI-459-21-22 Checklist and Submission (Internal Reference Document Only - Do not distribute)" - For verification of the completeness of the search.
2. "FOI-459-21-22 Search - Redacted - Cleared for release to applicant" - A redacted copy of the documents within scope that has been cleared for release by AVM Roberts.
3. "FOI 459-21-22 Talking Points" - Cleared by AVM Roberts

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any questions.

Kev

s47E(c) has sent you a link to "FOI 459/21/22 - Documents in scope" (fBP4127873) from Objective.

Open in Navigator

Double click on the attachment

Open in Your Browser

<https://objcdc8/id:fBP4127873>

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF FOI](#)  
**Subject:** 220527 - Email - s47E(c) Many - FOI 459/21/22 - Request for document searches - Due COB 26 May 2022  
**Date:** Friday, 27 May 2022 8:15:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**OFFICIAL**

Good morning s47E(c)

This was a sizeable task and which took over 10 hours for the SO to CDSPC to complete.

It is currently with CDSPC for clearance – noting the attached files will require RAAF FOI to redact any personal information contained within.

Regards,



s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
Chief of Staff, Defence Space Command  
+s47E(c) | +s22 | F3.2.105 | Fairbairn ACT 2610  
Email: s47E(c)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 May 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF FOI <raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au>  
**Subject:** FOI 459/21/22 - Request for document searches - Due COB 26 May 2022  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Importance:** High

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Sir's

Thank you to both of you for your time this afternoon.

s47E(c) as discussed searches for documents in scope will only include copies of all emails, sent to/from | bcc/cc'd Defence Space Commander Air Vice-Marshal Catherine Roberts for the period 18 January 2022 (when AVM Roberts stepped into the position) to 15 April 2022 (inclusive).

Please find attached the document search checklist, caretaker media and sensitive TP template and a link to our folder for the transfer of documents in scope. Privileges to access the folder have been given to you both. Please advise if anyone else requires access.

If at any time throughout the collation of information the 1000 page mark is reached within a four week period, please let me know and I can go to Defence FOI and ask for the scope to be revised.

Once the decision has been drafted and approved by DFOI, we will sent an email to request talking points. For the time being, we would sincerely appreciate receiving the original documents, search snapshots and signed PDF document search checklists by **COB Thursday 26 May 2022.**

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

☎s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

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**From:** s47E(c)

**Sent:** Friday, 20 May 2022 8:24 AM

**To:** Office of Defence Space Commander <[officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au](mailto:officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au)>

**Cc:** s47E(c) RAAF FOI  
<[raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au)>; RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>; AFHQ Media & MPA  
<[afhq.media@defence.gov.au](mailto:afhq.media@defence.gov.au)>

**Subject:** 220520 - Email - s47E(c) /Office of Defence Space Commander - FOI 459/21/22 - Request for document searches - Due COB 19 May 22

**Importance:** High

**OFFICIAL**

Good morning

Reference the request below for records in scope, it would be appreciated if we could get an update on the provision of information by midday today please.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 May 2022 12:19 PM  
**To:** Office of Defence Space Commander <[officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au](mailto:officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** s47E(c) RAAF FOI <[raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au)>; RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>; AFHQ Media & MPA <[afhq.media@defence.gov.au](mailto:afhq.media@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** 220506 - Email - s47E(c) Office of Defence Space Commander - FOI 459/21/22 - Request for document searches

## OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

AFHQ has received an inquiry from the FOI Department under the *Freedom of Information Act* 1982 (FOI Act) from s47F. The scope of request is as follows:

*"I kindly request a copy of all emails, sent to/from | bcc/cc'd Defence Space Commander Air Vice-Marshal Catherine Roberts for the period 25 June 2021 to 15 April 2022 (inclusive), that contain any of the following keywords: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena; UAP; Unidentified Flying Object; UFO; Unidentified Flying Objects; UFOs; Unauthorised Aircraft Movement; UAM; Unauthorised Aircraft Movements; UAMs; Unusual Aerial Sighting, Unidentified Phenomena. I also kindly request that personal details be limited to the full names of individuals involved in any applicable FOI response."*

**FYSA:** This is a media / sensitive case and will require Talking Points (TP's) cleared at the relevant level with a 1 Star point of contact. Please find attached TP's template for your convenience.

-

**Due date:** Could you please provide un-redacted copies of records that are within scope by **COB Thursday 19 May 2022**. You are not required to conduct searches outside of your area. A link for documents in scope to be transferred has been attached. Privileges to access the folder have been granted to yourself, please advise if there are any additional persons who require access.

**Sensitivities:** When documents are forwarded through, can you also provide advice of any sensitivities that the Accredited Decision Maker (ADM) may need to take into consideration when deliberating the release of the documents. If you believe the documents should be

redacted or withheld for reasons such as management of personnel (s47E(c)), or proper and efficient conduct of the operations of an agency (s47E(d)) then strong supporting arguments need to be supplied.

**Classified documents:** If documents held on the Defence Secret Network are identified as being in scope, the owner of these records must declassify the information prior to sending through on the Defence Restricted Network.

**Document Search Check List:** All personnel undertaking document searches are required to complete the attached document search checklist and return it to RAAF FOI with readable screenshots/snapshots of searches undertaken. Defence FOI collects this information to show Air Force has conducted 'reasonable searches' in support of the request. Evidence of searches are essential in the prevention of Internal (Defence) and External (Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) reviews.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

☎ s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

📧 [Chief of Staff AFHQ - Freedom of Information](#)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [Davies, Peter GPCAPT](#) s47E(c) [RAAF FOI](#)  
**Subject:** 220603 - Email - s47E(c) - FOI 459/21/22 - Request advice on redactions  
**Date:** Friday, 3 June 2022 12:06:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOI-459-21-22 - Proposed redactions.pdf](#)

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## OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

GPCAPT Davies (the ADM) has reviewed that attached documents for release. In conjunction with information in the public domain on the subject, the FOI Act, FOI Guidelines and current advice on the Information Commissioners website, named Defence personnel holding the rank 1 Star / Band 1 and above will be disclosed, and named Defence personnel holding a rank of 05 / EL1 and below will be disclosed.


Based on advice RAAF FOI have received from the ADM, we have adjusted the document for release and will be progressing the Statement of Reasons along with the document to Defence FOI for review.

If there are any issues with the ADM's decision to release the names, please contact GPCAPT Peter Davies directly.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters  
☎ s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610  
 [Chief of Staff AFHQ - Freedom of Information](#)

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**From:** Davies, Peter GPCAPT s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 June 2022 8:03 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
RAAF FOI <raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au>  
**Subject:** 220603 - Email - P Davies/s47E(c) - FOI 459/21/22 - Request advice on redactions

## OFFICIAL

s47E(c) – thanks for the proposed redactions. Please proceed with the following changes



applied:

- Page 1:
  - Redact only s47F and contact details in signature block
    - Unredact R1-6-A005
- Page 2:
  - No redactions to be applied
- Page 10:
  - Unredact 'Mr Rod Smith' and their title
- Page 11:
  - Apply same per page 1 for the body of the email
- Page 12:
  - No redactions to be applied
- Page 13:
  - No redactions to be applied

All other redactions are as proposed.

regards,

s47E(c)

Peter R Davies, CSC  
GPCAPT  
COS HQACG

HQ Air Combat Group  
LWB-04-058  
RAAF Base  
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

+s47E(c) (W)  
s22 (M)

DSN/SIPR: [peter.davies](#) s47E(c)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** 1 June 2022 17:50  
**To:** Davies, Peter GPCAPT s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
RAAF FOI <[raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au)>  
**Subject:** FOI 459/21/22 - Request advice on redactions [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon s47E(c)

As the ADM for this case, I am seeking your advice on the redactions applied, and the redaction proposed within documents for release at the attached links.

Noting the recent UAM activity in the US, the applicant s47F has shown a keen interest in requesting information in relation to UAM's. With that said, reference FOI 459/21/22 – Redacted – Cleared for release to applicant; Space Command have suggested that the personnel listed in the documents would become a target for future FOI requests should names contained with the documents be released. Space Command have applied redactions to personnel inclusive of 1 Star and above.

With reference to the document at the attached link 459/21/22 – Proposed redactions; On the topic of disclosing the names and contact details of public servants, the Office of the Information Commissioner states the following;

- *“The Information Commissioner remains of the view that generally it will not be unreasonable to disclose the names and contact details of public servants because this information only reveals that they were performing their public duties. The Information Commissioner considers there are public interest factors, including transparency and accountability of public servants, which favour disclosure of this kind of information”. “However, there are circumstances that may lead to real risks to the health, safety and wellbeing of some staff resulting from disclosure of this information”*

While I do understand Space Commands position, I do not believe there is what would be consider to be a “real risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of staff”, however as the ADM I would appreciate your thoughts with respect to the non-disclosure of personnel names inclusive of 1 Star and above.

Please note AVM Roberts has cleared the TP's and documents for release with applied redactions. Any changes made to the final document pack will be required to go back through AVM Roberts for clearance.

Happy to discuss.

Cheers

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

 [Chief of Staff AFHQ - Freedom of Information](#)

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**From:** [Davies, Peter GPCAPT](#) s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF FOI](#)  
**Subject:** 220607 - Email - P Davies/s47E(c) - FOI 459/21/22 - Documents for release  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 8:39:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOI 459\\_21\\_22 - Statement of Reasons.obr](#)

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## OFFICIAL

Hello s47E(c) Thanks for the SOR. The document has been reviewed with minor edits. The signed pdf is at the Obj link.

WRT to your questions I concur that page 13 can be remove without detriment to the scope of the request. Further, I conclude that there are three documents in total.

regards,

s47E(c)

Peter R Davies, CSC  
GPCAPT  
COS HQACG

HQ Air Combat Group  
LWB-04-058  
RAAF Base  
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

+s47E(c) (W)  
s22 (M)

DSN/SIPR: [peter.davies](#) s47E(c)

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** 6 June 2022 15:55  
**To:** Davies, Peter GPCAPT s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF FOI <raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au>  
**Subject:** FOI 459/21/22 - Documents for release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

## OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

As the ADM for **FOI 459/21/22** I request your assistance in reviewing and signing the

SOR. Please find attached a PDF version of the SOR for your convenience.

**FOI summary** – s47F has requested the following:

*"I kindly request a copy of all emails, sent to/from | bcc/cc'd Defence Space Commander Air Vice-Marshal Catherine Roberts for the period 25 June 2021 to 15 April 2022 (inclusive), that contain any of the following keywords: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena; UAP; Unidentified Flying Object; UFO; Unidentified Flying Objects; UFOs; Unauthorised Aircraft Movement; UAM; Unauthorised Aircraft Movements; UAMs; Unusual Aerial Sighting, Unidentified Phenomena. I also kindly request that personal details be limited to the full names of individuals involved in any applicable FOI response.*

**FYSA** - The FOI team have reviewed the package and made a suggested redaction change to page 13 for the documents being released. I proposed we removed page 13 as it doesn't contain any value in relation to the scope. In addition, DFOI have asked you to consider whether the documents being released contains one document, or if there are three documents relevant to the scope. There does appear to be three separate documents associated with each of the attachments, hence I have made the relative changes to the headers of the document pack. Please advise if you do not agree with the proposals made.

The final document package is due to DFOI by COB Tuesday 07 June 2022. We would be grateful if you could please review and sign the final product by **COB Tuesday 07 June 2022**.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

☎ s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

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**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF FOI; AFHQ Media & MPA](#)  
**Subject:** 220608 - Email - s47E(c) - FOI 459/21/22 - TP's for approval  
**Date:** Wednesday, 8 June 2022 4:41:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [FOI 459\\_21\\_22 - Statement of Reasons.pdf](#)  
[FOI 459\\_21\\_22 - Talking Points.docx](#)  
[FOI-459-21-22 - Proposed redactions.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon s47E(c)

Cleared.

Regards, s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Director Communication - Air Force

s47E(c) | +s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

cid:image002.png@01D4D431.26CA86C0



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**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 June 2022 7:36 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF FOI <raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au>; AFHQ Media & MPA <afhq.media@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** FOI 459/21/22 - TP's for approval [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

s47E(c)

Referencing the above mentioned case, please find attached the document pack including TP's for your clearance.

FYSA – Document pack was due to Defence FOI by COB 07 June 2022. Would be grateful for your advice on the TP's by COB Thursday 09 June 2022.

Cheers

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

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