



DEFENCE FOI 060/22/23 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:

"1. The Naval History Section's (NHS) RAN Battle Honours periodic review conducted circa 2014.

2. The covering 'brief' (or like document) submitted with the NHS's periodic Battle Honours review conducted circa 2014 to the Chief of Navy.

3. The RAN Battle Honour document submitted to the Governor General, through the Government Minister of Defence and Prime Minister, in 2014/15 which led to the then Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, approving the creation of four new RAN Battle Honours on 29 July 2015"

FOI decision maker

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

Documents identified

3. I identified five documents as matching the description of the request.
4. The decision in relation to each document is detailed in a schedule of documents.
5. I have added an FOI reference number and item/document number to each of the documents, which corresponds with the schedule.

Exclusions

6. Personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeyS numbers and mobile telephone numbers contained in documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request, duplicates of documents, and documents sent to or from the applicant are excluded from this request. Defence has only considered final versions of documents.

Decision

7. I have decided to:
 - a. release five documents in full; and
 - b. remove irrelevant material under section 22 of the FOI Act.

Material taken into account

8. 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;

- d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines);



CMDR Cathy Rice
Accredited Decision Maker
Navy Group

30 AUG 22