



## DEFENCE FOI 250/22/23 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

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

*“(1) The Directive explicitly prohibiting the use of ‘throwdowns’ and (2) the direction on the collection, handling and destruction of captured material on operations and (3) the Directive addressing command accountability for operational reporting, ensuring commanders and staff are accountable for integrity in operational reporting.*

*These are the documents referred to in dot points 1 and 6 of “Work completed includes” from the 1 August 2022 version of Afghanistan Inquiry Reform Program Update found at <https://www.defence.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-08/Afghanistan%20Inquiry%20Reform%20Program%20Update.pdf>*

*To the extent that there are multiple versions of these documents, I seek the final/most recent versions. To the extent that these are parts of a broader Directive/direction, I ask that the entire Directive/direction be considered to be within scope of the FOI application.”*

### 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. One (1) document ‘CJOPS Directive 25-22 - Expectations of All Persons Assigned for Duty on Operations Activities and Exercises’ was identified as matching items 1-3 of the scope of the request.

### Exclusions

4. 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

5. I have decided to release the document in full, with a single signature redacted in accordance with section 22 [Edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted] of the FOI Act.

### Material taken into account

6. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- the terms of the request;
  - the content of the identified documents in issue;
  - 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);
- e. advice provided by the Afghanistan Inquiry Response Task Force Headquarters; and
- f. advice provided by the Military Public Affairs Team within Headquarters Joint Operations Command.

chris. [redacted] Digitally signed by chris [redacted]  
Date: 2022.12.21 08:37:46  
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**Colonel Chris** [redacted]  
Accredited Decision Maker  
Director, Sensitive Issues Management Cell  
Headquarters Joint Operations Command