DEFENCE FOI 406/22/23 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

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

> "...a copy of the directive issued by the Chief of the Defence Force titled: "Directive 08/2014 Authorising the Disclosure of Inquiry Records and Reports under Regulation 63 Defence (Inquiry) Regulations 1985"."

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 one document as matching the description 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 irrelevant matter deleted in accordance with section 22 [access to 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:

  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 – 'Access to edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted'

7.   Section 22 of the FOI Act permits an agency to prepare and provide an edited copy of a document where to give access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request for access.

8.   The document contains signatures that do not relate to the scope of the request. As such, I have considered this information as irrelevant to the request.

9.   I am satisfied it is reasonably practicable to remove the irrelevant material and release documents in an edited form.

lisa. Digitally signed by lisa
Date: 2023.02.14
10:33:55 +11'00'

Lisa
Accredited Decision Maker
Office of the Chief of the Defence Force