



DEFENCE FOI 573/22/23 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] [the applicant] received on 9 March 2023 under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) for access to:

...the total number of defence export licences that have been granted from Australia to Saudi Arabia and UAE from 26 March 2015 to 1 March 2023.

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 document has been generated under section 17 of the FOI Act matching the description of the request. In accordance with section 17 of the FOI Act:

- a document was produced containing the information by using ‘a computer or other equipment that is ordinarily available to the agency for retrieving or collating stored information’ (section 17(1)(c)(i)); and
- producing the document did not ‘substantially and unreasonably divert resources of the agency from its other operations’ (section 17(2)).

Decision

4. I have decided to release the document created under section 17 [Requests involving use of computers etc.] of the FOI Act in full.

Material taken into account

5. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- a. the terms of the request;
 - b. relevant provisions in the FOI Act;
 - c. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines); and
 - d. information provided by subject matter experts within the Department of Defence.

Further Information

6. The document has been generated in the form of a table detailing the number of export permits approved by Defence Export Controls from 26 March 2015 to 1 March 2023.

kerrie. [REDACTED]

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Date: 2023.03.29 08:25:57 +11'00'

Ms Kerrie [REDACTED]
Accredited Decision Maker
Strategy, Policy, and Industry Group