



**DEFENCE FOI 924/23/24**

**STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982**

1. I refer to the request by [REDACTED] received on 20 May 2024 by the Department of Defence (Defence), for access to the following documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act):

*“...current copies of the following documents, referred to on page 18 of the Defence Portfolio Budget Statements for 2024-25:*

- *Defence Interim Workforce Plan*
- *Defence Culture Blueprint”*

**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 have identified two document as falling within the scope of the request.

**Exclusions**

4. Signatures contained in the documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request are excluded from this request.

**Decision**

5. I have decided to:
  - a. release one document in full; and
  - b. partially release one document 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 have had regard to:
  - a. the terms of the request;
  - b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
  - c. relevant provisions of the FOI Act; and
  - d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act.

**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 the agency has decided to refuse access to an exempt document or that to give access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request for access.
8. One document contains signatures that is listed under the exclusions heading at paragraph four and therefore removed as irrelevant to the request.
9. I am satisfied that it is reasonably practicable to remove the irrelevant material and release the document to you in an edited form.

**jodie** [redacted] Digitally signed by jodie. [redacted]  
Date: 2024.06.11 13:27:11  
+10'00'

**Jodie** [redacted]  
Accredited Decision Maker  
Department of Defence