



## DEFENCE FOI 784/23/24

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

1. I refer to the request by [REDACTED], (the applicant), dated and received on 26 March 2024 by the Department of Defence (Defence), for access to the following documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act):

*“All documents held by the Department of Defence that indicate how many reports have been made under The Reporting and Management of Notifiable Incidents policy related to defence personnel who have suspected/potential connections to extremist or supremacist groups or ideologies, and the outcome of those reports.*

*All documents held by the Department of Defence that indicate how many investigations into extremism or those who advocate supremacist ideology among current and prospective personnel Defence has carried out, and the outcome of those investigations.*

*The time period for this request is 25 October 2022 to date.”*

#### Background

2. On 17 April 2024, Defence sought the applicant’s written agreement to extend the period for dealing with the request until 9 May 2024 in accordance with section 15AA [extension of time with agreement] of the FOI Act. At the date of making my decision, the applicant has not responded to this request.

#### FOI decision maker

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

#### Documents identified

4. I have identified one document as falling within the scope of the request.

#### Decision

5. I have decided to release the document in full.

#### 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 (the Guidelines).



Accredited Decision Maker  
Defence People Group  
Department of Defence