

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Australian Government

21 November 2017

In reply please quote:

FOI Request: FA 17/10/01038 File Number: ADF2017/113031

Dear

Freedom of Information (FOI) request - Access Decision

On 28 September 2017, the Department of Human Services received a request for access to document under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act). The request is more closely associated with the functions of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the Department) and your request was transferred to this Department on 25 October 2017.

(the applicant) has authorised you to receive correspondence on their behalf about their FOI request. In this letter, references to 'you' relate to the applicant.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a decision on your request for access under the FOI Act.

1 Scope of request

You have requested access to the following document:

'The policy document or documents used by this department to determine SRSS eligibility.'

On 31 October 2017, after a telephone conversation with the FOI Section, your representative agreed to revise the scope of your request to the following:

'the version of the policy document in force from April 2017.'

2 Authority to make decision

I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests to access document or to amend or annotate records.

3 Relevant material

In reaching my decision I referred to the following:

- the terms of your request
- the document relevant to the request
- the FOI Act

- Guidelines published by the Office of the Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the FOI Guidelines)
- advice from the relevant business area
- the Department's guidance material on the FOI Act

4 Document in scope of request

The Department has identified one document as falling within the scope of your request. This document was in the possession of the Department on 28 September 2017 when your request was received by the Department of Human Services.

5 Decision

The decision in relation to the document in the possession of the Department which fall within the scope of your request is as follows:

• Release one document in part with deletions

5.1 Section 22 of the FOI Act – irrelevant to request

Section 22 of the FOI Act provides that if giving access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request, it is possible for the Department to prepare an edited copy of the document, modified by deletions, ensuring that the edited copy would not disclose any information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request.

I have therefore decided that parts of document marked 's22(1)(a)(ii)' would disclose information that could reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to your request, and have therefore prepared an edited copy of the document, with the irrelevant material deleted pursuant to section 22(1)(a)(ii) of the FOI Act. Further irrelevant information has been deleted from the pages released (under s.22(1)(a)(ii) of the FOI Act).

6 Legislation

A copy of the FOI Act is available at <u>https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2017C00251</u>.

7 Your Review Rights

Internal Review

If you disagree with this decision, you have the right to apply for an internal review by the Department of this decision. Any request for internal review must be provided to the Department within 30 days of you being notified of the decision. Where possible please attach reasons why you believe a review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by an officer other than the original decision maker and the Department must make a review decision within 30 days. Applications for review should be sent to:

By email to: <u>foi.reviews@border.gov.au</u>

OR

By mail to: Freedom of Information Section Department of Immigration and Border Protection PO Box 25 BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for a review of this decision. You must apply in writing within 60 days of this notice. For further information about review rights and how to submit a request for a review to the OAIC, please see Fact Sheet 12 "Freedom of information – Your review rights", available online at http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-reviews.

8 Making a Complaint

You may complain to the Australian Information Commissioner about action taken by the Department in relation to your request.

Your enquiries to the Australian Information Commissioner can be directed to: Phone 1300 363 992 (local call charge) Email <u>enquiries@oaic.gov.au</u>

There is no particular form required to make a complaint to the Australian Information Commissioner. The request should be in writing and should set out the grounds on which it is considered that the action taken in relation to the request should be investigated and identify the Department of Immigration and Border Protection as the relevant agency.

9 Contacting the FOI Section

Should you wish to discuss this decision, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Section at <u>foi@border.gov.au</u>.

(signed electronically)

FOI Officer | Freedom of Information Section FOI, Privacy and Records Management Branch Corporate Services Division Department of Immigration and Border Protection Australian Government



Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Attachment B

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS TO DECISION RECORD

FOI Request FA 17/10/01038 File Number ADF2017/113031

No.	Date of document	Folio	Description	Relevant legislation (FOI Act)	
1.	April 2017	1-9	SRSS Operations Procedures Manual and Addendum	Irrelevant material deleted	s.22(1)(a)(ii)