



4 June 2019

In reply please quote:

FOI Request: FA 19/02/01516

File Number: ADF2019/9834

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information (FOI) request - Access Decision

On 26 February 2019, the Department of Home Affairs (the Department) received a request for access to document under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act).

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 requested access to the following document:

- 1) *any summary documents that outlines payments and the reasons for the payments made under the "letter of intent" between Paladin Solutions PNG Limited for the Contract Notice: CN3470670 and*
- 2) *any summary reports from Paladin Solutions PNG Limited which outlined the breakdown of expenditure for the delivery of the contract.*

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).

4 Document in scope of request

In accordance with section 17 of the FOI Act, the Department used its computer system to produce one document that contains information that falls within the scope of your request. This data is relevant to part 1 of your request, and consists of payments made to Paladin Solutions PNG Limited under Contract Notice CN3470670.

The data produced in the document existed in the possession of the Department on 26 February 2019 when your FOI request was received.

Details of the related services undertaken by Paladin Solutions PNG Ltd is publicly available on the Australian Government's procurement information system, which can be found here: <https://www.tenders.gov.au/>.

In relation to part 2 of your request, the Department undertook reasonable searches in relation to the documents you requested access to. Having regard to your request and the types of documents that may fall within the scope of your request I am satisfied that the searches conducted were thorough and all reasonable steps were taken to locate any document relevant to your request.

5 Decision

The decision in relation to the document in the possession of the Department which falls within the scope of part 1 of your request is to release one document in full.

Section 24A of the FOI Act provides that the Department may refuse a request for access to a document if all reasonable steps have been taken to find the document and the Department is satisfied that the document does not exist. I am satisfied that the Department undertook reasonable searches in relation to part 2 of your request and that no documents relevant to that part of your request were in the possession of the Department on 26 February 2019 when your FOI request was received. As such I am refusing part 2 of your request under section 24A of the FOI Act.

6 Legislation

A copy of the FOI Act is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2004A02562>. If you are unable to access the legislation through this website, please contact our office for a copy.

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: foi.reviews@homeaffairs.gov.au

OR

By mail to:
Freedom of Information Section
Department of Home Affairs
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 <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-review-process>.

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 enquiries@oaic.gov.au

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 Home Affairs 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 foi@homeaffairs.gov.au.



**Authorised Decision Maker
Department of Home Affairs**