



28 October 2024  
FOI Ref 3753

CR  
By email: foι+request-12098-xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx

Dear applicant

**Freedom of Information Request – Charges**

I refer to your request to the Treasury on 30 September 2024, as refined by you on 8 October 2024, for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act)* to the following:

1. *The most recent 30 notices of charges issued to FOI applicants.*  
*For each of these 30 requests, if applicable, please also provide:*
    2. *Any subsequent decisions regarding charges following applicant contention.*
    3. *Any subsequent decisions regarding charges following internal or external review.*
- The time period for my request is from 1 July 2022 to 1 October 2024.*
- Please exclude the following information:*
- i) *Personal information of FOI applicants, including supporting evidence or details of personal circumstances in a financial hardship contention.*
  - ii) *Emails that attached the charges notices/decision letters.*

In accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act, I have decided that you are liable to pay a charge in respect of the processing of your request. My preliminary assessment of the charge is \$543.72, based on the following calculations:

Item	Hours	Price
Search and retrieval already undertaken	7.5 hours	\$112.50
Decision-making, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examination of relevant pages and deciding whether to release or exempt</li> <li>• Eleven third party consultations</li> <li>• The making of any necessary redactions (this does not include the redaction of staff details)</li> <li>• Preparation of a decision letter.</li> </ul>	First 5 hours (free) 21.56 additional hours	\$0 \$431.22
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$543.72</b>
<b>Deposit (25% of total cost)</b>		<b>\$135.93</b>

These hourly charges have been calculated using the *Freedom of Information (Charges) Regulations 2019* (the **FOI Regulations**) to reflect the work involved in processing a request and making a decision. However, any access you get to the documents will depend on the final decision, and not the payment of charges.

***What you need to do***

You have 30 days to pay the charges. You can pay the charge in full, or pay a deposit of 25% now and the remainder before you receive any documents. The attachment to this letter sets out the payment options.

***If you dispute the charge***

Please contact the Treasury's FOI team by emailing [fox@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx](mailto:fox@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx) and explain why the charge has been wrongly assessed, why it should be reduced, or why there should be no charge for your request.

Your email must include your reasons for disputing the charge. If you are requesting a reduction in the charge, or that there be no charge, this includes information to help the Treasury understand whether:

- the charge would cause financial hardship to you, or the person on whose behalf you made the request, or
- giving access to the documents is in the general public interest, or in the interest of a substantial section of the public.

The Treasury will then consider your email, and make a decision about whether or not to reduce or remove the charge. You may still contest the charge after paying the charge in full, or in part by deposit.

***What happens next?***

The statutory timeframe for processing your request is suspended until you pay the charge or deposit, or until you receive a decision from the Treasury about removing the charge.

If you do not contact the Treasury or pay the charge or deposit **within 30 days of receiving this letter**, your request will be taken to have been withdrawn.

***Third Party Consultation***

I have identified third parties that might reasonably wish to make exemption contentions pursuant to section 27 of the FOI Act (Business). The statutory timeframe for processing this request will be extended by 30 days to allow for consultation to occur with these third parties.

Yours sincerely

David Hertzberg  
A/g Assistant Secretary  
Law Division

## Department of Treasury Payment Options

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Address: \_\_\_\_\_

FOI Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 1: Bank Cheque or Australian Money Order** – made out to “Collector of Public Monies”

Attached

**Option 2: Please debit my credit card as follows:**

AMEX

VISA

Mastercard

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Card Number

Expiry Date

CCV Number

Total Amount

Name on Card

Signature of card holder

*Send your completed form:*

*by post to: FOI Officer, The Treasury, Langton Crescent, Parkes ACT 2600*

*or by Email to: [FOI@treasury.gov.au](mailto:FOI@treasury.gov.au)*

Office Use Only			
<i>File Number:</i>		<i>Trim Number:</i>	
<i>Cost Centre:</i>		<i>GL Code:</i>	
<i>Customer Number:</i>		<i>DAN Number:</i>	