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Our Ref: LEX 3271

25 November 2024

ADS (Right to Know)

Email: foi+request-12228-1871c371@righttoknow.org.au

Dear ADS

Freedom of Information request LEX 3271

I refer to your request dated 26 October 2024 made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act).

Attached at Annexure A to this letter is my decision and statement of reasons for that decision.

Yours sincerely,

C.A

Casey
A/FOI Team Leader – Corporate
Freedom of Information
Chief Counsel Portfolio

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STATEMENT OF REASONS RELATING TO AN FOI REQUEST BY ADS (RIGHT TO KNOW)

I, Casey, Freedom of Information, am an officer authorised under section 23 of the Act to make decisions in relation to the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

What follows is my decision and reasons for the decision in relation to your request.

BACKGROUND

On 26 October 2024, the AFP received your request in the following terms:

Request

Please provide training manuals/guides or documents that govern or instruct in the use of any Palantir technology/software used by the Agency.

DECISION

In accordance section 25 of the Act, I refuse access in relation to your request, on the basis I neither confirm nor deny the existence of documents are held by the AFP.

The FOI Act allows agencies to refuse access without confirming or denying he existence of a document where a document, if existed, would be exempt under section 33 (documents affecting national security, defence or international relations) or section 37(1) (documents affecting enforcement of law and protection of public safety).

YOU SHOULD READ THIS GENERAL ADVICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS IN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

REVIEW AND COMPLAINT RIGHTS

If you are dissatisfied with a Freedom of Information decision made by the AFP, you can apply either for internal review of the decision, or for a review by the Information Commissioner (IC). You do not have to apply for internal review before seeking review by the IC.

For complaints about the AFP's actions in processing your request, you do not need to seek review by either the AFP or the IC in making your complaint.

REVIEW RIGHTS under Part VI of the Act

Internal review by the AFP

Section 54 of the FOI Act gives you the right to apply for internal review of this decision. No particular form is required to make an application for internal review, however, an application needs to be made in writing within 30 days of this decision. It would assist the independent AFP decision-maker responsible for reviewing the file if you set out in the application, the grounds on which you consider the decision should be reviewed.

Section 54B of the FOI Act provides that the internal review submission must be made within 30 days. Applications may be sent by email (foi@afp.gov.au) or addressed to:

Freedom of Information Australian Federal Police

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GPO Box 401 Canberra ACT 2601

REVIEW RIGHTS under Part VII of the Act

Review by the Information Commissioner

Alternatively, section 54L of the FOI Act gives you the right to apply directly to the IC for review of this decision. In making your application you will need to provide an address for notices to be sent (this can be an email address) and a copy of the AFP decision.

Section 54S of the FOI Act provides the timeframes for an IC review submission. For an access refusal decision covered by section 54L(2), the application must be made within 60 days. For an access grant decision covered by section 54M(2), the application must be made within 30 days.

Applications for IC review may be lodged by email (foidr@oaic.gov.au), using the OAIC's online application form (available at www.oaic.gov.au) or addressed to:

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner GPO Box 5128 Sydney NSW 2001

The IC encourages parties to an IC review to resolve their dispute informally, and to consider possible compromises or alternative solutions to the dispute in this matter. The AFP would be pleased to assist you in this regard.

Complaint

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your FOI request, please let us know what we could have done better. We may be able to rectify the problem. If you are not satisfied with our response, you can make a complaint to the IC. A complaint may be lodged using the same methods identified above. It would assist if you set out the action you consider should be investigation and your reasons or grounds.

More information about IC reviews and complaints is available on the OAIC's website at https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/reviews-and-complaints/.