

**From:** [Alan ASHMORE](#)  
**To:** [INFORMATION.ACCESS](#)  
**Subject:** Internal review of Freedom of Information request - Gold card costs  
**Date:** Tuesday, 15 November 2022 11:12:58 PM

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Dear Department of Veterans' Affairs,

Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.

I am writing to request an internal review of Department of Veterans' Affairs's handling of my FOI request 'Gold card costs'.

I note your refusal to issue, "the total additional cost to the Government of veterans and war widows in receipt of a Gold Card) under section 24A(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act, on the basis that the documents do not exist."

May I respectfully challenge the decision that the documents do not exist. I say this as immediately following the conclusion of the Secretary's Round Table, (SRT), in August 2019 one of DVA's First Assistant Secretary's approached Mick Quinn and I about this matter that we had earlier raised in the meeting.

The First Assistant Secretary showed us a one page document that detailed the exact information I requested and you claim does not exist. This First Assistant Secretary then arranged to meet with him when next in Melbourne but we never heard from him again.

Should you be unable or unwilling to release the requested document you will leave me with no alternative but to write to the Minister.

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address:  
[https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/gold\\_card\\_costs](https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/gold_card_costs)

Yours faithfully,

Alan ASHMORE

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Please use this email address for all replies to this request:  
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx

This request has been made by an individual using Right to Know. This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. More information on how Right to Know works can be found at:  
<https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers>

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

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