

From: [FOI](#)
To: [OAIC - FOI DR](#)
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Subject: RE: MR22/01812 - Request for Further Information [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 30 July 2024 6:28:15 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
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[MR22_01812 - s 55V and 55\(e\) notices.pdf](#)
[Searches - September 2022.pdf](#)
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PMO reference: PM/22/006

OAIC reference: MR22/01812

Dear Ji

We write on behalf of the Prime Minister's Office (the Office) with regards to the attached section 55V and 55(2)(e)(ii) notices (the notices).

The Office provides the following information in response.

- As outlined in the submissions of 24 January 2024 and 25 June 2024, the two advisers with knowledge of the subject matter were identified and asked to search their records for responsive documents. While the Office does not have designated 'line areas' as referred to in the notices, the Office confirms that the advisers were those responsible for the subject matter relevant to the scope of the request (i.e. they were, for all intents and purposes, the relevant 'line areas').
- The search request extended to emails and 'any other storage system used for work records', which necessarily includes all relevant physical and electronic systems and devices used by those advisers.
- Moreover, the advisers confirmed to the decision-maker they were not aware of any further communications on the subject of the request (this includes any communications with the Prime Minister). The Chief of Staff has now separately confirmed that he is also not aware of any such communications (see below).
- Following searches of all relevant repositories, two documents were in fact located and released to the applicant subject to relevant exemptions. This is not a case where

documents have not been found in relation to the FOI request as a whole. Section 24A was only applied in relation to a very specific portion of the request.

- Noting the directions outlined in the notices for further searches, the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff has undertaken additional searches for documents relevant to the request. Details of those searches are set out in one of the attachments to this email. No further documents have been found.

Please find **attached** the documents recording the searches undertaken by relevant advisers within the Office, as well as the recent additional search undertaken by the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff.

Kind regards

Tim

Adviser | FOI Section

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