



Dear 

## Freedom of Information – Notice of Decision

I refer to your application under section 30 of the [Freedom of Information Act 2016](#) (the FOI Act), received by the City and Environment Directorate (CED) on 24 October 2025.

This application was initially two requests, however in accordance with section 43(2) your applications is being considered a singular application as they are related.

It is my understanding you are seeking access to the following information:

*“Part 1. Access to a copy of the Risk Assessment Management Plan (RAMP) submitted by the Canberra Tradesmen's Union Club (Tradies) in accordance with its gaming-licence obligations. I also request any subsequent amendments, compliance notes, or approvals associated with that RAMP held by the ACT Gambling and Racing Commission.*

*Part 2. I respectfully request access to the Risk Assessment Management Plan (RAMP) submitted by the Canberra Tradesmen's Union Club (Tradies) in connection with its liquor-licence obligations. I also request any subsequent amendments, compliance assessments, or related correspondence held by the Liquor Licensing and Compliance Branch.*

I thank you for providing the following view on the public interest:

*This request is made in the public interest, with reference to section 63 and Schedule 3 of the Liquor Act 2010 (ACT), to ensure compliance with requirements concerning responsible service of alcohol, patron safety, and harm minimisation”.*

## Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the FOI Act, CED is required to provide a decision on your application within 30 working days. In accordance with section 41 of the FOI Act an extension of time was requested. As a response was not received to this request within 7 business days, the extension is taken to be agreed. A decision is due on your application on or before 19 January 2026.

## Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General of the City and Environment Directorate under section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the FOI Act.

## Decision on access

In accordance with the FOI Act, a record of search was undertaken.

I note that part one of your application was addressed to the Gambling and Racing Commission but was delivered to Access Canberra, within CED. Consistent with section 57 of the FOI Act, CED requested advice from Gambling and Racing Commission if relevant information was held. No relevant records were identified. Advice received clarified that Risk Assessment Management Plans are subject to the *Liquor Act 2010*, which falls under part two of your application, rather than gaming-licence obligations. Despite this distinction, it was confirmed that the Gambling and Racing Commission do not hold a copy of the Risk Assessment Management Plan (RAMP) submitted by the Canberra Tradesmen's Union Club (Tradies). As relevant information is not held by the Gambling and Racing Commission, your application was not transferred.

In relation to part two of your application, a search for CED records has been completed and 22 records within the scope of your application have been identified. The records are listed in the schedule at [Attachment A](#).

I have decided to:

- grant full access to 6 records.
- grant partial access to 8 records.
- refuse access to 8 records as I consider the disclosure of the information to be contrary to the public interest.

### *Deferred release of records*

Under section 38 of the FOI Act, CED is required to consult with third parties where disclosure of information may reasonably be expected to affect their interests. In making this decision, I consulted with relevant third parties and considered their views and objections. One third party objected to the release of information in records 1-4, 8 – 12, and 10-11.

As I have decided to partially release this information, access to these records is deferred under section 38(6)(b) of the FOI Act. This deferral allows the third party 20 working days, or a longer period if granted by the ACT Ombudsman, to seek a review of my decision by the ACT Ombudsman. You will be notified if a review application is received or when access is no longer deferred.

The reasons for my decision are detailed in the *statement of reasons* section below. A copy of records where I have provided full or partial access, which is deferred, is at [Attachment B](#).

## Statement of reasons

The FOI Act has a pro-disclosure bias, which requires information to be disclosed unless doing so would be contrary to the public interest. As an Information Officer, I am responsible for determining whether disclosure of the information within the scope of your application would be contrary to the public interest.

My assessment begins with Schedule 1 of the FOI Act, which outlines categories of information that are taken to be contrary to the public interest to disclose. If the information does not fall within any of these categories, I must then apply the public interest test under section 17 of the FOI Act. This test involves weighing the factors favouring disclosure against those favouring nondisclosure, as set out in Schedule 2.

In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the FOI Act
- the information that falls within the scope of your application
- your views regarding the public interest
- the views of third parties consulted
- the Human Rights Act 2004
- the ACT Ombudsman FOI Guidelines

I confirm that I have not considered any of the factors listed in section 17(2) of the FOI Act, which outlines a list of considerations that must not be taken into account when applying the public interest test.

#### Schedule 1 – Information taken to be contrary to the public interest

- Schedule 1.3 – Information disclosure which is prohibited under law

Under section 35(1)(c) of the FOI Act, an agency may refuse to give access to information if the information is considered contrary to the public interest. In this case, the information requested falls within the scope of Schedule 1, clause 1.3(6) of the FOI Act, which provides that “*any other information the disclosure of which is prohibited by a secrecy provision of a law*” is taken to be contrary to the public interest.

A secrecy provision is defined in clause 1.3(7) as a provision that:

1. applies to information obtained in the exercise of a function under the law; and
2. prohibits people mentioned in the provision from disclosing the information, whether the prohibition is absolute or subject to stated exceptions or qualifications.

There are two instances where this is applicable:

1. Section 90A of the *Liquor Act 2010* (Liquor Act), which states:

*The commissioner must not make a risk-assessment management plan, or an approved risk-assessment management plan, for licensed premises or permitted premises available to anyone, other than the licensee or permit-holder, unless required to do so by this Act or another law in force in the Territory.*

The format of risk assessment plans is broad, meaning disclosure is prohibited except where required by the regulator or an enforcement agency under the Liquor Act or another law. Because this prohibition qualifies as a secrecy provision under the FOI Act, the requested information is considered contrary to the public interest under Schedule 1, clause 1.3(6). Access is therefore refused to records 15-22 under section 35(1)(c) of the FOI Act.

2. *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, section 47(E)(d), which conditionally exempts the disclosure of information that have a substantial adverse effect on the proper and efficient conduct of the operations on an agency. In considering the objections of the Australian Federal Police regarding the disclosure of internal email addresses, the

requested information is considered contrary to the public interest under Schedule 1, clause 1.3(6). Access is therefore refused under section 35(1)(c) of the FOI Act.

As these sections only apply to some of the information in your application I have continued my assessment below.

### Schedule 2 – Public interest test

#### *Factors favouring disclosure (Schedule 2.1 )*

- Schedule 2.1(a)(iii) - inform the community of the government's operations, including the policies, guidelines and codes of conduct followed by the government in its dealings with members of the community

#### *Factors favouring nondisclosure (Schedule 2.2)*

- Schedule 2, section 2(a)(ii) - prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004
- Schedule 2, section 2(a)(xi) - prejudice trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person

In reviewing the relevant records and your application, I consider that the disclosure of information within the scope of your application demonstrates a regulatory process, and steps taken in the assessment of a RAMP generally, noting the specifics of a RAMP are taken to be contrary to the public interest to disclose. Disclosure of these records is likely to inform the community of the government's operation generally; however, the advancement of the public interest is minimal as information relating to the licencing framework is public through website guidance and the ACT Legislation Register. I have placed moderate weight on this factor.

In my consideration of factors favouring non-disclosure of information within the records, I have identified the personal information of parties who are not employees of the ACT Government. I have considered that the information has been provided to CED with the expectation that it is handled in accordance with published privacy statements and policies. I consider that this information is not readily available to the public and has not otherwise been disclosed by CED. I further consider that this information has come to be held by CED with the expectation that it is handled in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2014 and disclosure would result in a breach of our obligations. I have placed significant weight on this factor.

I have also identified information which was provided to CED in a regulatory context and on the basis of candid, and cooperative engagement between licensee and regulator. It includes material which is an extract or informs the RAMP or is detailed information which is sensitive to the Tradie's business operations. In considering the information and objections provided as a response to third party consultation, I find this information is likely to prejudice the business affairs of the Tradies and place significant weight on this factor.

#### *Balancing the factors*

Having applied the public interest test outlined in section 17 of the FOI Act, I have concluded that some information contained in the records is not in the public interest to disclose. Accordingly, I have redacted this specific information under section 50(2) of the FOI Act.

## Charges

Processing charges are not applicable for this application because the number of pages released to you is below the charging threshold of 50 pages.

## Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the FOI Act, CED maintains a disclosure log, which is a public record of access applications and decisions. Your original access application and my decision will be published on the CED disclosure log. Your personal contact details will not be published.

## ACT Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access application is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek ACT Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the FOI Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is provided to you, or a longer period allowed by the ACT Ombudsman. If you wish to request a review of my decision, you may write to the ACT Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman  
GPO Box 442  
CANBERRA ACT 2601  
Via email: [actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au)

## ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the FOI Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal  
GPO Box 370  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740  
<https://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Please contact the CED Information Access team if you have any queries in relation to your application via 6207 2987 or [CEDFOI@act.gov.au](mailto:CEDFOI@act.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Jodie Vaile  
Information Officer  
City and Environment Directorate  
16 January 2026