



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COVERSHEET

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI reference: 23-096

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Schedule	Published
4. Documents	Published
5. Additional information identified	Not Applicable
6. Fees	Not Applicable
7. Processing time (in working days)	26 Days
8. Decision made by Ombudsman	Not applicable
9. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	Not Applicable
10. Decision made by ACAT	Not applicable

11. Additional information identified by ACAT	Not applicable
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS FreedomOfInformation](#)
Subject: FOI Request: Number of bus trips not in service
Date: Friday, 18 August 2023 7:05:43 AM

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am seeking information in regards to the number of bus trips while “not in service”.

I would like the number of trips for the last 18 months, to 18 August 2023. For each trip, can you please include the date, approximate distance of the trip, and the reason for the trip.

Please provide this information in electronic readable form (ie not PDF – but excel or CSV – so that it can be aggregated and used by members of the public).

Thank you,

[REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Request - Reference 23-096

I refer to your application for access to government information received by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) on 18 August 2023. It is my understanding that you are seeking access to the following government information:

“...the number of bus trips while “not in service”. I would like the number of trips for the last 18 months, to 18 August 2023. For each trip, can you please include the date, approximate distance of the trip, and the reason for the trip.

Please provide this information in electronic readable form (ie not PDF – but excel or CSV – so that it can be aggregated and used by members of the public).”

Timeframes

A decision is due on your access application by 29 September 2023.

Authority

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

Decision on access

In accordance with the FOI Act, a search of TCCS records has been completed and relevant information has been collated into three excel workbooks.

Upon reviewing the information and applying the public interest test under section 17 of the FOI Act, I have decided to provide you with full access to these records.

The records identified as relevant to your application are listed in the schedule enclosed at [Attachment A](#). A copy of the records is at [Attachments B - D](#).

Statement of Reasons

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

- The FOI Act; and
- The *Human Rights Act 2016*.

In making my decision on disclosing the relevant government information, I must identify all relevant factors in schedule 1 and 2 of the FOI Act and determine, on balance, where the public interest lies.

Schedule 1:

- No relevant sections identified.

Schedule 2:

Factors favouring disclosure in the public interest (Section 2.1)

- Schedule 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability;
- 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;
- Schedule 2.1(a)(iv) - ensure effective oversight of expenditure of public funds;
- Schedule 2.1(a)(viii) - reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.

Factors favouring non-disclosure (Section 2.2)

- No relevant factors identified.

In reviewing the relevant records, I have identified that the disclosure of information is likely to inform the community of government operations. I have also considered that the information on the use of government assets may contribute to the oversight of expenditure of public funds as well as providing contextual information on government decisions. Generally, these factors also contribute to promoting open discussion of public affairs.

As no factors favouring non-disclosure have been identified, I find the disclosure of the information in these records, on balance, to be in the public interest. A copy of the relevant information is enclosed at [Attachments B - D](#).

Charges

In accordance with [Freedom of Information \(Fees\) Determination 2018](#), a fee of \$0.35 per page of information disclosed, except for the first 50 pages, may be applied to an access application regardless of print or electronic format.

In this instance, I have decided not to apply fees as the information is of special benefit to the public. The disclosure of this information contributes to further public awareness of the operation of the bus network in addition to data already available through the ACT Open Data Portal.

Online publishing – disclosure log

Under section 28 of the Act, TCCS maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. In accordance with section 28, your application, my decision and information disclosed to you will be published on the [TCCS Disclosure Log](#) within 3 – 10 business days.

Your personal information will be removed from these documents prior to publication.

Ombudsman review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek an Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in TCCS' disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82 on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision.

Further information may be obtained from ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore Street
GPO Box 370
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
www.acat.act.gov.au

If you have any queries concerning the directorate's processing of your request, or would like further information, please contact the TCCS FOI team on (02) 6207 2987 or email to tccs.foi@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Cherie Hughes
Information Officer

24 September 2023

ATTACHMENT A - ACCESS APPLICATION SCHEDULE, FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Reference Number: 23-096

Please be aware that under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*, some of the information provided to you will be released to the public through the ACT Government's Open Access Scheme. The Open Access release status column of the table below indicates what documents are intended for release online through open access.

Personal information or business affairs information will not be made available under this policy. If you think the content of your request would contain such information, please inform the contact officer immediately.

Information about what is published on open access is available online at: https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/about-us/freedom_of_information/disclosure-log

Reference number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for non-release or deferral	Open Access release status
1	Statistics for Not in Service 01-01-23 to 18-08-23_03	September 2023	Full access	Not applicable	Decision to be published on the TCCS Disclosure Log .
2	Statistics for Not in Service 01-07-22 to 31-12-22_02	September 2023	Full access	Not applicable	
3	Statistics for Not in Service 18-02-22 to 30-06-22_01	September 2023	Full access	Not applicable	

Total number of documents: 3