



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COVERSHEET

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

FOI reference: 24-052

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Schedule	Not Applicable
4. Documents	Published
5. Additional information identified	Not Applicable
6. Fees	Not Applicable
7. Processing time (in working days)	30 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:** Dog attacks FOI request  
**Date:** Wednesday, 10 April 2024 5:28:01 PM

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Under Freedom of Information Act: I seek all information held by TCCS Directorate including Domestic Animal Services on numbers and rates of injury where the primary diagnosis is an injury caused by contact with animals, specifically dogs. (bites or strikes by a dog).

This might also include accidental injuries caused by being bumped by a dog, tripping over a dog or being pushed or pulled and falling. Include injuries that are not admitted to hospitals. (please indicate these specifics).

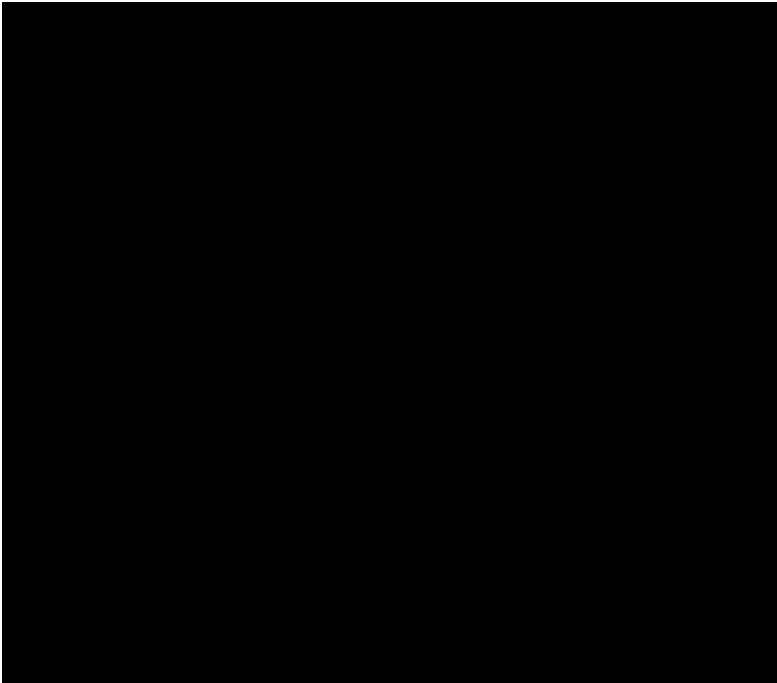
I am seeking content which covers the period July 2012 and June 2022

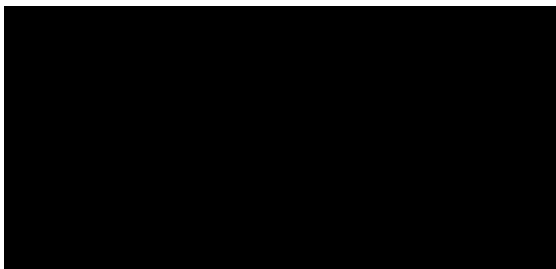
This information might include, but not be limited to reports, emails, briefs, notes, talking points, records of phone calls or other documents, submission of forms.

I seek a remission of any fees relating to this request.

Regards

[REDACTED]





Dear 

### **Freedom of Information Request - Reference 24-052**

I refer to your application for access to government information received by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) on 10 April 2024. It is my understanding that you originally sought access to the following government information:

*“Under Freedom of Information Act: I seek all information held by TCCS Directorate including Domestic Animal Services on numbers and rates of injury where the primary diagnosis is an injury caused by contact with animals, specifically dogs. (bites or strikes by a dog). This might also include accidental injuries caused by being bumped by a dog, tripping over a dog or being pushed or pulled and falling. Include injuries that are not admitted to hospitals. (please indicate these specifics).  
I am seeking content which covers the period July 2012 and June 2022  
This information might include, but not be limited to reports, emails, briefs, notes, talking points, records of phone calls or other documents, submission of forms.”*

On 16 April 2024, you advised “Please include information relating to reported injuries, but unverified as a diagnosis.”

I thank you for amending your application on 14 May 2024 following advice from our office that a significant volume of information relevant to your request had been identified. The scope of your application currently seeks access to data held by Domestic Animal Services between 2019 and June 2022 as described in correspondence from our office below:

*“A search of records by our line area has identified that systems designed to capture some of the data you are seeking commenced in 2019. While your application seeks access to documents as well, the data from 2019 to June 2022 indicates 3063 incidents were classified as a dog attack or aggressive/harassing. The information relating to dog attacks can be refined to attacks against a person and attacks against a child.”*

### **Timeframes**

A decision is due on your access application by 24 May 2024.

### **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 one record has been compiled in line with your request.

Upon reviewing the information within this record and applying the public interest test under section 17 of the FOI Act, I have found it to be, on balance, in the public interest to provide you with full access. The reasons for my decision are detailed below in the statement of reasons. A copy of the information is enclosed at [Attachment A](#).

### **Statement of Reasons**

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. I have taken the following into account:

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

#### **Schedule 1:**

- No relevant sections identified.

#### **Schedule 2:**

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

- Schedule 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability.
- Schedule 2.1(a)(ii) - contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest.
- 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 non-disclosure (Schedule 2.2)**

- No relevant factors identified.

In reviewing the relevant record, I have considered the relevance of several factors favouring disclosure, including that the information is likely to promote open discussion of public affairs, contribute to a positive and informed debate, and inform the community about the government's operations. My review did not identify any relevant factors favouring non-disclosure.

I have found that disclosure is, on balance, in the public interest. A copy of the relevant information is enclosed at [Attachment A](#).

### **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. No fees are applicable as the total number of pages is within the fee free threshold.

### **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 the information disclosed to you will be published within 3 – 10 business days. Your personal information will be removed prior to publication. You may view the TCCS' disclosure log [here](#).

**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](mailto: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  
GPO Box 370  
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601  
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740  
[www.acat.act.gov.au](http://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](mailto:tccs.foi@act.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Lisa Johnson  
Information Officer

23 May 2024

FOI 24-052 – Attachment A

<b>Category</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Dog attack	282	460	276
Dog attack on child	10	7	17
Dog attack on person	76	52	103
Dog attack on dog	165	86	137
Dog attack on other	44	19	32
<b>SUBTOTAL (Dog attacks)</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>565</b>
Aggressive/harassing	558	390	349
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1135</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>914</b>