



ACT
Government

City and Environment

Our ref: CED FOI 25-052

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Application - Reference 25-052

I refer to your application made under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the FOI Act) received by the City and Environment Directorate (CED).

In your application, you have sought access to:

- “1. All policy documents, reviewed or updated since April 2025, that are relevant to deciding animal nuisance complaints under the Domestic Animals Act 2000.*
- 2. Number of animal nuisance complaints received each year between 2022 - 22 August 2025.*
- 3. Number of the above animal nuisance complaints that were investigated each year between 2022 - 22 August 2025.*
- 4. Number of the above animal nuisance complaints which resulted in an animal nuisance notice being issued.”*

Authority

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

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the FOI Act, a decision on your access application must be made on or by **7 October 2025**.

Decision on Access

Searches of CED records have identified two documents within the scope of your application.

I have decided to provide you with:

- **full access** to two documents.

The documents identified as relevant to your application are listed in the schedule at [Attachment A](#). The schedule provides a description of each document that falls within the

scope of your application and the access decision for each of those documents. The information being released to you is provided at Attachment B.

The reasons for my decision are detailed in the statement of reasons section below.

Statement of reasons

In considering your application, I have taken the following into account:

- the FOI Act
- the contents of the documents within the scope of your application
- the *Freedom of Information (Volume 4 – Considering the public interest) Guidelines 2023* (Notifiable Instrument NI2023-751).

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 must decide where, on balance, public interest lies in the disclosure of government information. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the steps for completing the public interest test. As part of this process, I must identify all relevant factors in schedule 1 of the FOI Act. If no factor in schedule 1 is found relevant, I must then consider the factors listed in schedule 2 of the FOI Act and determine, on balance, where the public interest lies.

In making my decision, I also confirm that I have not considered any of the factors listed in section 17(2) of the FOI Act which contains a list of factors which must not be taken into consideration.

Schedule 1

No information within the documents is information contrary to the public interest under schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

Schedule 2

Factors favouring disclosure (Section 2.1)

- Schedule 2, section 2.1(a)(i) – disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government’s accountability.
- Schedule 2, section 2.1(a)(viii) – disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to 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 factors favouring the nondisclosure were identified.

I am satisfied that these factors favouring disclosure have been given full consideration and no factors favouring the nondisclosure were identified.

Charges

No fee is applicable as per section 104(4) of the Act, as the information is under 50 pages.

Online publishing – disclosure log

Under section 28 of the Act, CED maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log.

Your original access application, this decision and documents released to you (with redactions to your personal information) will be published on the [CED disclosure log](#).

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 CED's 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:

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
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 CED FOI team on (02) 6207 2987 or email to CEDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Yu-Lan Chan
Information Officer
City and Environment Directorate
3 October 2025