

FOI Coordinator,  
Chief Minister, Treasury, and Economic Development Directorate,  
GPO Box 158,  
Canberra ACT 2601.

1 April 2026

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the **Freedom of Information Act 2016 (ACT)**, I request access to the following information and documents held by the ACT Government in relation to residential woodsmoke pollution and associated policy matters.

### **1. Complaints received**

Please provide statistics on the number of complaints received from members of the public between **1 January 2022 and the date this request is processed** concerning neighbourhood woodsmoke pollution, including complaints relating to:

- residential wood heaters
- smoking chimneys
- fire pits
- wood-fired barbecues
- pizza ovens
- backyard or household waste burn-offs
- any other comparable sources of residential smoke pollution.

### **2. Compliance and enforcement action**

In relation to the complaints identified above, please provide statistics on the number of instances in which the ACT Government has taken any of the following actions:

- letters or other written warnings sent to householders
- formal warning notices issued
- breach notices issued
- fines, penalties, or other enforcement action applied.

### **3. Meetings with industry representatives**

Please provide details on the number of planning, advisory, consultation, or other meetings attended by ACT Government representatives between **1 January 2022** and the date this request is processed at which representatives, members, or agents of the wood-heating industry, firewood industry, or associated peak bodies or lobby groups were also present, and where any of the following matters were discussed:

- residential woodsmoke pollution
- wood heaters
- related government policy, regulation, legislation, or public advice regarding wood heaters, firewood and residential woodsmoke pollution.

### **4. Purpose and outcome of industry meetings**

For each meeting identified in response to item 3, please provide details or documents sufficient to show;

- the date of the meeting
- the attendees
- the purpose of the meeting
- the issues discussed
- any outcomes, decisions, or follow-up actions arising from the meeting.

### **5. Attempts to influence government policy or advice**

Please provide any documents that show whether, between **1 January 2000** and the date this request is processed, any representatives of the wood-heating industry or firewood industry served, in a paid or unpaid capacity, on any ACT Government committee or board, or acted as industry specialists, consultants or advisers to any ACT Government directorate, agency, department, committee or board.

Please provide copies of all documents that show whether any lobbyist, lobby group, industry body, peak body, organisation, company, or individual representing the wood-heating or firewood industry has, at any time between **1 January 2000** and the date this request is processed, requested, suggested, advocated for, or otherwise attempted to influence the ACT Government to:

- modify, amend, delay, soften, or withdraw public advice relating to the use of wood heaters
- alter statements, reports, or findings regarding pollution caused by wood heaters
- change, reinterpret, or downplay evidence relating to environmental harm or public health impacts associated with wood-heater use
- adjust regulatory, policy, or public messaging positions concerning wood heaters.

### **6. Scope of documents sought**

Without limiting item 5, this request includes:

- emails
- letters
- meeting minutes
- briefing notes
- file notes
- internal memoranda
- communications between ACT Government officials and external stakeholders
- meeting agendas, attendance records, and summaries
- drafts of public advice, policy documents, reports, or communications showing tracked changes, comments, or annotations linked to external input.

## **7. Meetings with community representatives**

Please provide details on the number of planning, advisory, consultation, or other meetings attended by ACT Government representatives between **1 January 2022** and the date this request is processed at which community representatives were also present, and where any of the following matters were discussed:

- residential woodsmoke pollution
- wood heaters
- related government policy, regulation, legislation, or public advice.

## **8. Purpose and outcome of community meetings**

For each meeting identified in response to item 7, please provide details or documents sufficient to show;

- the date of the meeting
- the attendees
- the purpose of the meeting
- the issues discussed
- any outcomes, decisions, or follow-up actions arising from the meeting.

To assist with processing, I am happy for the request to be interpreted as covering documents held by the relevant ACT Government directorates, agencies, and business units with responsibility for environmental protection, public health, climate policy, regulatory compliance, and related policy development concerning woodsmoke pollution and wood-heater use.

Yours sincerely,