




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 21 May 2026. It is my understanding you are seeking access to the following information:

“... approved documents related to the construction of the Embassy of Bangladesh at Block 18, Section 86 - Turrana Street, Yarralumla, ACT, (specifically):

- Traffic Management Plan (TMP)*
- Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS)*
- Vehicle Movement Plan (VMP)*
- Construction Parking Plan (CPP)”*

I thank you for providing the following statement on the public interest in your application:

“Releasing this information is in the public interest as it allows the public to understand the project's impacts on motorists, impacts on pedestrians and cyclists, safety, access to adjoining properties, and whether the project planned for how workers at the site and adjacent facilities will be able to park legally near the site and in accordance with Australian Road Rules.

If the these documents (or some of them) were not approved, please indicate which documents have not be approved and whether or not they were submitted”.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the FOI Act, CED is required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 working days. As this matter required third party consultation, the decision due date was extended by 15 working days, in accordance with section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Therefore, a decision is due on or by **27 July 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

A search for records held by CED has been completed and ten 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 **partial** access to ten records. The records are at **Attachment B**. The reasons for my decision are detailed in the *Statement of reasons* section below.

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 decision, 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

- *No relevant sections identified.*

Schedule 2 – Public interest test

Factors favouring disclosure (Schedule 2.1)

- *Section 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability.*
- *Section 2.1(a)(viii) - reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.*

In reviewing the information within the scope of your application, I note that the requested records relate to the management and arrangements associated with a significant construction project. I consider that disclosure of the information would assist the public to understand how traffic, parking and vehicle movements were assessed and managed, and the basis on which those arrangements were approved. I consider this promotes transparency in government decision-making and enhances accountability in the administration of public works. I have given significant weight to this factor.

Factors favouring nondisclosure (Schedule 2.2)

- *Section 2.2(a)(ii) - prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*

Some of the records relevant to your application contain personal information of individuals employed by a contracted service provider, including names, signatures and contact details. I have considered 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*. It is my view that this information if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy under section 12 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*. I have placed substantial weight on this factor.

Balancing the factors

In balancing the factors favouring disclosure against those favouring nondisclosure, I have carefully considered the public interest in promoting transparency, accountability and informed public debate. I have also considered your views on the public interest. I acknowledge that disclosure of certain information would advance these interests, particularly where it relates to the government's operations and the context surrounding government decisions.

However, I must also consider the strong public interest in protecting personal privacy. I am of the view that individuals are entitled to expect that their personal information will be managed in a way that safeguards their privacy and is consistent with applicable privacy obligations.

On balance, I find that the factor favouring nondisclosure carries greater weight than the factor favouring disclosure in relation to the relevant information.

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.

Consistent with the pro-disclosure intent of the FOI Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that is contrary to the public interest ensures compliance with the FOI Act while still providing access to the majority of the information held by CED within the scope of your application.

The documents released under this decision are being provided in the form in which they are held by the Directorate. Some documents, including technical drawings, engineering assessments, draft plans, advice, comments or recommendations, may represent work undertaken at a particular point in time and should be read in the context of the accompanying records where relevant. The release of a document does not necessarily indicate that the matters it contains were adopted, approved or implemented.

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

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.

Yours sincerely

Signed electronically.

Craig Weller
Information Officer
City and Environment Directorate
27 July 2026