

Dear Applicant

DECISION ON YOUR ACCESS APPLICATION

I refer to your application under Section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (FOI Act), received by ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) on **Thursday 13 January 2022**. Clarification regarding the scope of the application was received on **Monday 24 January 2022**.

This application requested access to:

'Documents including but not limited to emails, text messages or briefs with information about the supply of RATs to ACT Ministers or their offices by the ACT Health Directorate in the months December 2021 and January 2022. For clarity this is about the supply of RAT tests for the use of those offices.'

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General of ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) under Section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act. ACTHD was required to provide a decision on your access application by **Tuesday 22 February 2022**.

I have identified two documents holding the information within scope of your access application. These are outlined in the schedule of documents included at Attachment A to this decision letter. My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons and the documents released to you are provided at Attachment B to this letter.

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

- The FOI Act;
- The contents of the documents that fall within the scope of your request; and
- The *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Decisions on access

I have decided to grant full access to the information within scope contained in the two documents. The information redacted is out of scope of your access application.

I am also able to advise that ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) and Canberra Health Services (CHS) did not provide Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) to the ACT Minister's or their offices as a result of this communication.

Charges

Processing charges are not applicable to this request.

Disclosure Log

Under Section 28 of the FOI Act, ACTHD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. The scope of your access application, my decision and documents released to you will be published in the disclosure log not less than three days but not more than 10 days after the date of this decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

<https://www.health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/freedom-information/disclosure-log>.

Ombudsman review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in ACT Health'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:

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

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review

Under Section 84 of the 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
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Further assistance

Should you have any queries in relation to your request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Coordinator on (02) 5124 9831 or email HealthFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Cherie Hughes
Chief Operating Officer, COVID-19 Response
ACT Health Directorate

22 February 2022

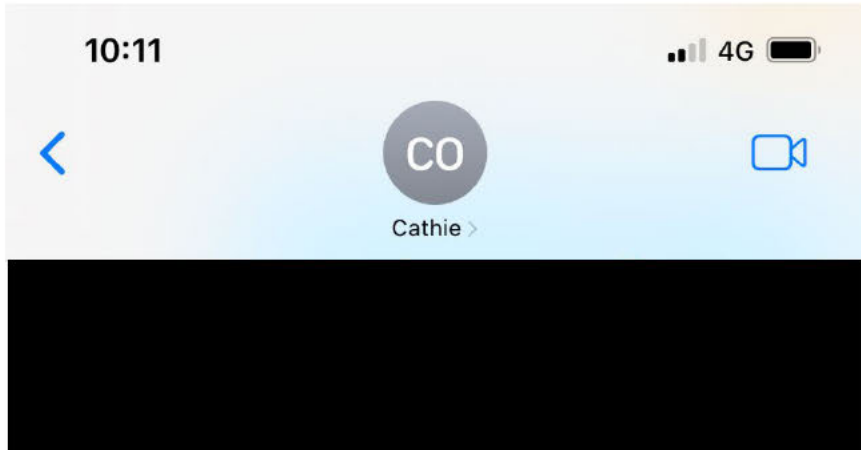
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS

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: <http://www.health.act.gov.au/public-information/consumers/freedom-information>

APPLICANT NAME		WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST				FILE NUMBER
[REDACTED]		Documents including but not limited to emails, text messages or briefs with information about the supply of RATs to ACT Ministers or their offices by the ACT Health Directorate in the months December 2021 and January 2022. For clarity this is about the supply of RAT tests for the use of those offices.				ACTHDFOI21-22.38
Ref Number	Page Number	Description	Date	Status Decision	Factor	Open Access release status
1.	1	Text message communication between ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services	4 January 2022	Full Release	Out of scope information redacted	YES
2.	2	Text message communication between ACT Health Directorate and Minister's Office	4 January 2022	Full Release	Out of scope information redacted	YES
Total Number of Documents						
2						



Tue, 4 Jan, 6:14 pm

Just spoke to Ben T. I'm happy to get you some additional RATs It's small volume. All good!

Cathie its more about the appropriateness of the use of govt tests... and public perception...

But I'll swallow my concerns and provide

Yeah I get that. But also think that we will struggle if the three of you are down with COVID!!

