

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the FOI Act), received by the Education Directorate (the Directorate) on 13 March 2018, in which you are seeking access to documents relating to issues or complaints regarding school chaplains in the ACT, funded under the Federal Government's National School Chaplaincy Program, from 1 January 2015 to 13 March 2018.

You have specifically requested:

1. Formal complaints made about any school chaplain previously or currently employed in an ACT school from 1 January 2015 to 13 March 2018
2. Feedback from ACT schools about chaplains given to the Education Directorate – either in terms of a formal report given by a principal or in response to a request for feedback from the Directorate
3. Issues raised with the Directorate by school principals regarding finding/funding/employing/retaining a school chaplain

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

A decision on your access application was required to be provided by 12 April 2018.

Decision on access

A search of Directorate records has failed to identify any documentation that relates to your request.

To be clear, the Directorate has not been able to locate any documents from the period specified containing:

- formal complaints about school chaplains,
- feedback from schools about chaplains, or

- issues raised with the Directorate by principals regarding the finding, funding, employment or retention of chaplains.

I am satisfied that appropriate searches were completed and that no documents relevant to your request are held by the Directorate.

Online publishing

Under section 28 of the FOI Act, the Directorate maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Details about your access application and my decision in response to your access application will be published in the Directorate's disclosure log within 3-10 business days after my decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

You may view the Directorate's disclosure log at

https://www.education.act.gov.au/about_us/freedom_of_information/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 Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in the Education Directorate'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

Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.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/>

If you have any queries concerning the Directorate's processing of your request, or would like further information, please contact me on (02) 6205 0720 or email EDULegalLiaison@act.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Paula Murray
Information Officer
Education Directorate

9 April 2018