

File Ref: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST

I refer to your application received by the Education Directorate (the Directorate) on 6 March 2020, in which you are seeking access to information under *the Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act).

On 12 March 2020 the Directorate sought clarification about the scope of your request [REDACTED] and also provided additional information related to School Census reports.

On 18 March 2020 [REDACTED] confirmed that your access application seeks the:

*Forecasts of capacity and enrolment figures for public primary schools in Aranda, Belconnen, Bruce, Charnwood, Cook, Dunlop, Florey, Flynn, Fraser, Hawker, Higgins, Holt, Latham, Macgregor, Macnamara, Macquarie, Melba, Page, Scullin, Spence, Strathnairn, Weetangera, Evatt, McKellar and Lawson.*

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

A decision on your access application is due by 14 April 2020, in line with section 40(2) of the Act.

### Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant documents and one document was identified that falls within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant partial access to the aforementioned document, with deletions applied as two schools were identified as not within the scope of your request and the

document also contained other information that was not within the scope of the request. The out of scope information has therefore been deleted.

I have included as Attachment A to this decision, the document being released to you.

For your information, the document contains the most recent information as at 6 March 2020.

It may also assist your review of the document to know that

- the enrolment projections uses a 'cohort transition model' that moves groups of students forward each year from one grade to the next. Projections are used as part of a broad range of considerations in school planning and the model has been shown to have a high overall level of accuracy, however projections are not an exact forecast of a future outcome and should not be interpreted in this way.
- the projection model assumes that current trends will continue into the future. It is intended to describe expected enrolments at schools before intervention – which may include investment in capacity and enrolment policy changes. As a result, the projection model may demonstrate schools exceeding capacity over time.
- The projection model also becomes less accurate over time as trends change.
- The projected enrolments for 2019 to 2029 were produced before the 2020 education census results were available.
- Information for Kingsford Smith and Macgregor Primary schools has been adjusted to take West Belconnen development into account.

### **Charges**

Processing charges are not applicable to this request.

### **Online publishing – disclosure log**

Under section 28 of the Act, the Directorate maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. The Directorate is required to publish the information released in response to an access application on the disclosure log between three and ten days after the decision is released to the applicant, however, your personal information will not be published.

For your information, the Directorate's disclosure log is available at [https://www.education.act.gov.au/about-us/freedom\\_of\\_information/disclosure-log](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 released to you, 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: [actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au)  
Telephone: (02) 6276 3773

**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  
Website: <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 the Directorate's FOI team on 02 6205 0720 or email [EducationFOI@act.gov.au](mailto:EducationFOI@act.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Paula Murray  
Information Officer

14 April 2020