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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Education Directorate (the Directorate) on 6 September 2022, in which you sought access to:

Copies for the past 5 years of the full results of the satisfaction survey taken at Telopea Park School...including results of each question and comparison of those results to the territory-wide average results.

On 6 September 2022, you were advised that some of the information sought was already publicly available due to a previous FOI request and you agreed to the scope of your request to be revised to:

A copy of the 2021 school satisfaction and climate survey results for Telopea Park School, including the results for each question and the comparison with other P-10 schools.

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.

The Education Directorate was required to provide a decision on your access application by 6 October 2022.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant records and six records were identified that fall within the scope of your request.

In summary, I have decided to grant access to the records as follows:

- Full release of four records;
- Partial release of two records with information removed that is outside the scope of your request.

The released records are provided at Attachment A.

A schedule of the records is provided at Attachment B.

Additional information

It may assist your consideration of the records released to be aware of the following:

- There are two parts to the survey. The first is a school climate module that forms part of a longitudinal study conducted in partnership with researchers at the Australian National University. School climate focuses on issues such as school identification and relationships. The second part measures general satisfaction.
- Over time the surveys have changed and there has been some variation in questions and themes from year to year, for example, loneliness, family support and COVID have been in focus at different times.
- The roles and relationship between ANU and the Directorate has changed over time. At times the survey was conducted by ANU with little involvement from the Directorate.
- In 2021 the timing of the survey was delayed to Term 4 due to Covid lockdown. It is not possible to determine what impact this change may have had on results. Also, due to the delayed timing and Covid lockdown, the survey was shortened and some of the questions were removed. This was applied to some of the Satisfaction questions because they are stand-alone questions, meaning that deleting one question does not impact any others.

Charges

There is no charge associated with this request, as it is less than threshold of 50 pages set out in the Act.

Online publishing – disclosure log

Under section 28 of the Act, the Directorate maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Information about your request, my decision and records released to you in response to your access application will be published in the Directorate's disclosure log between three and 10 working days after a decision on access has been provided to you. Your personal information 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 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: actfoi@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 the Directorate's FOI team on 02 6205 0720 or email EducationFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Paula Murray
Information Officer

5 October 2022