



**In reply please quote:**

FOI Request: FA 15/12/00289

File Number: ADF2015/65146

3 February 2016



I refer to your email dated 21 November 2015 in which you request access to documents held by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the Department) under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act).

**Scope of Request**

You requested access to the following documents held by the Department:

*'the number of firearms imported into Australia for the years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. Specifically, I would appreciate the following:*

- 1. Number of firearm importations by commercial or private importations of all categories of firearms including rifles, handguns, shotguns, air-guns, blackpowder, imitation, antique. For sporting, commercial, military, law enforcement and correctional services use;*
- 2. Please advise the number of commercial and private exportations, for all types and uses as above, and*
- 3. Please provide the number of illicit firearm and firearm parts that were intercepted and seized, along with a description of each firearm and/or firearm part.'*

On 11 January 2016, the Department notified you that the work involved in processing your request in its current form would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of this agency from its other operations due to its broad nature, size and complexity. You were provided with an opportunity to revise the scope of your request to enable the Department to process it.

On 21 January 2016, you agreed to modify the scope of your request as follows:

*"the number of firearms imported into Australia for the years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. Specifically, I would appreciate the following:*

- 1. Number of firearm importations by commercial or private importations of all categories of firearms including rifles, handguns, shotguns, air-guns, blackpowder, imitation, antique. For sporting, commercial, military, law enforcement and correctional services use".*

This letter is to notify you of my decision on access to the documents subject to your request.

## Decision on access

I am authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions to release and to refuse access to exempt documents.

In accordance with section 17 of the FOI Act, the Department has used its computer system to produce one document that contains the requested information. The data produced in this document existed in the possession of the Department on 21 November 2015 when your FOI request was received.

I have decided to release this document to you in full under the provisions of the FOI Act.

## Your Review Rights

### Internal Review

If you disagree with this decision, you have the right to apply for an internal review by the Department of this decision. Any request for internal review must be provided to the Department within 30 days of you being notified of the decision. Where possible please attach reasons why you believe a review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by an officer other than the original decision maker and the Department must make a review decision within 30 days. Applications for review should be sent to:

Freedom of Information Section  
Department of Immigration and Border Protection  
PO Box 25  
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

OR

By email to: [foi@border.gov.au](mailto:foi@border.gov.au)

### Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) for a review of this decision. You must apply in writing within 60 days of this notice. For further information about review rights and how to submit a request for a review to the OAIC, please see Fact Sheet 12 "Freedom of information – Your review rights", available online at <http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-reviews>.

## Making a Complaint

You may complain to either the Commonwealth Ombudsman or the Australian Information Commissioner about action taken by the Department in relation to your request.<sup>1</sup>

The Ombudsman will consult with the Australian Information Commissioner before investigating a complaint about the handling of an FOI request.

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<sup>1</sup> On 13 May 2014, the Australian Government announced a decision to disband the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). However, the Freedom of Information Amendment (New Arrangements) Bill 2014, which proposes the closure of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), has not yet been considered by the Senate. The OAIC therefore remains operational until further notice. Information on the OAIC public website advises that Information Commissioner reviews will continue to be handled by the OAIC and FOI complaints will be referred to the Commonwealth Ombudsman. Please contact the OAIC on the details above if you require further information.

Enquiries to the Ombudsman can be directed to:  
Phone 1300 362 072 (local call charge)  
Email [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au)

Enquiries to the Australian Information Commissioner can be directed to:  
Phone 1300 363 992 (local call charge)  
Email [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)

There is no particular form required to make a complaint to the Ombudsman or the Australian Information Commissioner. The request should be in writing and should set out the grounds on which it is considered that the action taken in relation to the request should be investigated and identify the Department of Immigration and Border Protection as the relevant agency.

## Contact

Should you wish to discuss this decision, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Section at [foi@border.gov.au](mailto:foi@border.gov.au).



**FOI Officer | Freedom of Information Section  
Access to Information Branch  
Corporate Services Division  
Department of Immigration and Border Protection**

Email: [foi@border.gov.au](mailto:foi@border.gov.au)