



In reply please quote:

FOI Request: FA 17/02/00166

File Number: ADF2017/18321

24 February 2017



Dear 

I refer to your email dated 1 February 2016 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).

1 Scope of Request

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

'A breakdown by religious backgrounds, where disclosed, of the 18,619 people displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq who were granted humanitarian places between 1 July 2015 and 6 January 2017.'

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

2 Authority to make decision

I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions to in respect of requests to access documents or to amend or annotate Departmental records.

3 Relevant material

In reaching my decision, I have considered the following:

- the terms of your request;
- the documents relevant to your request;
- the FOI Act;
- Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under s 93A of the FOI Act, and
- advice from Departmental officers with responsibility for matters relating to the documents to which you sought access.

4 Documents in scope

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 1 February 2016 when your FOI request was received.

The data that is contained within this document was extracted from the Departmental computer system of 23 January 2017.

Please note the following:

- as the information has been drawn from dynamic system environments the information provided may differ from previous or future reporting.
- The statistics in this table includes visas granted towards the annual offshore resettlement component of the Humanitarian Programme, and the additional 12,000 places for people displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq.
- The religion of principal visa applicants is applied to secondary visa applicants.
- Religion is self-identified and as declared on an application and may include generic responses.

5 Decision on access

The decision in relation to the document in the possession of the Department which comes within the scope of your request is to release one document in full.

6 Legislation

A copy of the FOI Act is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2004A02562>.

If you are unable to access the legislation through this website, please contact our office for a copy.

7 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.reviews@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>.

8 Making a Complaint

You may complain to the Australian Information Commissioner about action taken by the Department in relation to your request.

Your enquiries to the Australian Information Commissioner can be directed to:

Phone 1300 363 992 (local call charge)

Email enquiries@oaic.gov.au

There is no particular form required to make a complaint to 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.

9 Contact

Should you wish to discuss this decision, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Section at foi@border.gov.au.



Director Syrian/Iraqi Resettlement & Operational Performance
Refugee and Humanitarian Programme Branch
Refugee and Humanitarian Visa Management Division
Visa and Citizenship Services Group
Department of Immigration and Border Protection