



Reference: BN8935216

**FOI 096/19/20 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

*"1. I request the total cost (including GST) for the information system known as Defence Deployable Restricted Network Light (DDRN-L). These eleven complete systems (plus spares) were produced in-house by the Australian Public Service for the Australian Army by the Defence Materiel Organisation, Electronic and Weapons Systems Division, Command and Intelligence Systems Sustainment Office (Russell Offices R-3). To assist you in your search the systems were catalogued with Complete Equipment Schedule (NSN) per Reference B. Additionally, the DDRN-L systems were Design Accepted by Land Engineering Agency 04 August 2005 with Acceptance Certificate Number DDRN-L-001 and assigned file number per Reference C.*

*2. In addition to my request for information regarding the Defence Deployable Restricted Network Light; I further request the complete cost (including GST) for the second generation deployable systems that superseded the DDRN-L. In addition to the total cost I also request the total number of systems built and a copy of the Design Acceptance Report.*

*Excluding duplicates and drafts of documents."*

**FOI decision maker**

2. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

**Documents identified**

3. The Department has undertaken a search of its records, and has identified that no discrete documents existed at the time of your request that contained the information you seek.

4. Section 17 of the FOI Act states that where a request is made to an agency, but it is for information that is not available in discrete form in written documents of the agency, and the agency could produce a written document containing the information by the use of a computer, then the agency shall deal with the request as if it were a request for access to such a document.

5. I consider that point 1 of your request meets the criteria set out in section 17 and a summary document has been created.

**Decision**

6. I have decided to:

- a. release one document relating to point 1 of your request in full; and

- b. refuse access to documents relating to point 2 of the request under section 24A of the FOI Act.

### Material taken into account

- 7. In making my decision, I had regard to:
  - a. the terms of the request;
  - b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
  - c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act;
  - d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines); and
  - e. advice received from Capability, Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

### Reasons for decision

#### Section 24A – Refusal if documents do not exist

8. Subsection 24A(1)(b)(ii) allows refusal of access if the agency is satisfied the document does not exist. Searches did not reveal any documents relating to point 2 of your request and advice from Joint Systems Division, Capability, Acquisition and Sustainment Group was that no Design Acceptance Report was produced for the GEN2 DDEP Unit variants.

9. Based on the above, I am satisfied that no document could reasonably found as matching the description “*Design Acceptance Report... for the second generation deployable systems that superseded the DDRN-L.*” Accordingly I have decided to refuse access under section 24A of the FOI Act.

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Mrs Renee Butler  
Accredited Decision Maker  
Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group

September 2019