



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Defence Reference: FOI 550/19/20

Army Reference: AHQ/OUT/2020/BQ13067280

FOI 550/19/20 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:

“ITEM 1- Copies of the Prohibited Substance Testing Program (PSTP) determination Decisions Notice of Positive Test Result (NPTR) in table form of ADF members in Townsville for financial year 2018/19 and from July 1, 2019- April 30, 2020.

ITEM 2 - a breakdown of the statistics for the type of drugs detected for these NPTR's over the same period, and a breakdown of the services in the table format.”

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. One document (two pages) was generated under section 17 of the FOI Act matching the description on this FOI request. In accordance with section 17:

- a. a written document was produced containing the information by using a ‘computer or other equipment that is ordinarily available’ to the agency for retrieving or collating stored information (section 17(1)(c)(i))
- b. producing the written document did not substantially and unreasonably divert resources of the agency from its other operations (section 17(2)).

Decision

4. I have decided to release one document in full.

Material taken into account

5. 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)
- e. advice provided by Career Management – Army Involuntary Separations, Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Prohibited Substance Testing Program Coordinator and Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Prohibited Substance Testing Program Coordinator.

Context Statement

6. The RAN Prohibited Substance Testing Program Coordinator consulted their testing spreadsheet for financial years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. No Notices of Positive Test Results were identified in financial years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 (1 July 2019 to 30 April 2020).

Melanie.Cochbain Digitally signed by
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MP Cochbain
COL
Accredited Decision Maker
Army