

18 September 2015

s47F

Dear s47F

1. I refer to your request of 21 August 2015 for access to information held by Defence Housing Australia under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth)*.
2. I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of request for access to documents. My decision and the reasons for that decision are set out below.

Background

3. On 21 August 2015 you lodged a Freedom of Information (FOI) request by email, in which you have sought access to information regarding

...the intended use of the site of the Palm Beach Caravan Park. I would like to know how the site is to be developed and what demographic is being target to reside here.

4. DHA acknowledged receipt of your request on 25 August 2015.

Legislative background

5. The Act provides a right of access to information in the possession of Commonwealth agencies, limited only by exceptions and exemptions provided for in the Act.

Decision

6. A search by DHA was unable to identify any documents in existence relating to the intended use of the site of the Palm Beach Caravan Park. In making my decision, I relied on section 24A of the FOI Act. A copy of this provision is at Attachment A for your information.
7. I am satisfied that all reasonable steps have been taken to locate any documents that fall within the scope of your request and that no such document exists. Broader planning parameters for the site are currently in the discussion stages and formal documentation has yet to be commenced.
8. A follow up community information session is going to be held tomorrow, Saturday 19 September 2015, 2pm – 4pm at Gary Holland Community Centre, 19 Kent Street, Rockingham. For more information please call the DHA Community Information Line on 1800 087 199.

HEAD OFFICE



Rights of review

9. If you do not agree with my decision in relation to the release of documents, you are entitled to apply for an internal review of the decision under section 54 of the FOI Act. The attached Notice of Rights of Review contains information on making an application for an internal review by DHA.

FOI disclosure log

10. In accordance with the requirements of section 11C of the FOI Act, Defence Housing Australia is required to publish, on its website, information released under the FOI Act within 10 working days of the applicant being given access to documents. Defence Housing Australia will also publish the decision notice, with any personal and business information deleted. The information published does not include personal information or the business, commercial, financial or professional affairs of any person if publication of that information would be unreasonable. Other information not published also includes that which the Australian Information Commissioner determines is unreasonable to publish.

Further information

11. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this matter.

Yours sincerely

s47F

Pip Sackley
Executive Officer

Attachment A: Section 24A, *Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth)*

Attachment B: Review rights

24A Requests may be refused if documents cannot be found, do not exist or have not been received

Document lost or non-existent

- (1) An agency or Minister may refuse a request for access to a document if:
 - (a) all reasonable steps have been taken to find the document; and
 - (b) the agency or Minister is satisfied that the document:
 - (i) is in the agency's or Minister's possession but cannot be found; or
 - (ii) does not exist.