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From:
To:
Cc: [FOI; s 22](#)
Subject: New FOI request 2033 - Right to Know - Seeking Decision Maker [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2020 9:51:41 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning s 22

We have received the following request from Right to Know, who are seeking:

"I recognise that my request may have implied that a document may already exist, but I was actually asking for a summary that did not, unless it did exist.

As a consequence of this mix-up, I am now clarifying my request to access all, or as many of the following as possible:

- 1. Any internal documents regarding co-morbidities pertinent to COVID-19 death/s.*
- 2. Any internal documents regarding contributing factors pertinent to COVID-19 death/s.*
- 3. Any internal documents regarding aggregated statistics pertinent to contributing factors AND/OR co-morbidities related to COVID-19 deaths.*
- 4. Any internal documents regarding aggregated statistics pertinent to COVID-19 deaths.*
- 5. Any internal documents regarding statistical analysis of COVID 19 deaths.*
- 6. Any internal documents regarding the analysis of COVID-19 deaths. "*

We sent the applicant a decision advising that the department did not hold any documents relevant to his request. He has now put in a new request seeking a summary report of the documents.

I have been advised that your area may be able to assist. Please let me know?

Thank you

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FOI Officer – FOI & Legislation Support Section

Legal & Assurance Division | Corporate Operations Group
Legal Advice & Legislation Branch
Australian Government Department of Health

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GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continued connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to all Elders past and present.

If you receive this email in error, please delete it and contact the sender immediately.

-----Original Message-----

From: s 47F

Sent: Tuesday, 13 October 2020 9:48 PM

To: FOI <FOI@health.gov.au>

Subject: TRIM: Re: Freedom of Information Request 1958 - Notice of Decision [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

REMINDER : Think before you click! This email originated from outside our organisation. Only click links or open attachments if you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear FOI,

Thank you for your reply. Unfortunately, I am dissatisfied with the outcome of my request. Furthermore, the links provided were not an alternative source of the information requested.

I am choosing to clarify the nature of my request as the following sentence from your reply implies incorrectly that I am requesting a specific document for release:

"the department does not hold THE DOCUMENT referred to in your request."

Referring back to my original request:

"I am requesting a SUMMARY REPORT of all.."

I recognise that my request may have implied that a document may already exist, but I was actually asking for a summary that did not, unless it did exist

As a consequence of this mix-up, I am now clarifying my request to access all, or as many of the following as possible:

1. Any internal documents regarding co-morbidities pertinent to COVID-19 death/s.
2. Any internal documents regarding contributing factors pertinent to COVID-19 death/s.
3. Any internal documents regarding aggregated statistics pertinent to contributing factors AND/OR co-morbidities related to COVID-19 deaths.
4. Any internal documents regarding aggregated statistics pertinent to COVID-19 deaths.
5. Any internal documents regarding statistical analysis of COVID-19 deaths.
6. Any internal documents regarding the analysis of COVID-19 deaths.

If any or all of the above are not available to this department, I would respectfully ask that you transfer this request to the most relevant department.

Again, I would like to reiterate the importance of this request to the public. Citizens are dying - and the analytics currently available to the public regarding deaths are not sufficient enough for an individual to personally assess their own risk of death due to contraction and subsequent infection of the COVID-19 virus.

It is imperative that every Australian citizen know as much as possible about the lifestyles of the individuals who have died as a result of the virus for them to be able to modulate and amend their own lifestyles in a way that can statistically reduce their chances of death - none of this is possible without knowing what other diseases/health problems/contributing factors were attributed to the unfortunate deaths of the citizens which have already died from the virus.

I find it hard to believe the Health Department do not have documents relating to the contributing factors in COVID-19 deaths - this would imply that The Health Department are incompetent in regards to warning the public, which they are obligated to protect, as to which demographic of citizens are most vulnerable to dying as a result of contraction.

With this in mind, i feel it is necessary to release ANY and ALL publicly available information related to Covid-19 deaths so the public may aggregate and analyse the co-morbidity data themselves, but I am understanding that this request may out of the scope of a FOI request to this department.

Yours sincerely,

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47F

-----Original Message-----

Dear ^S
47F

Please find attached correspondence in relation to your FOI request to the Department of Health.

Kind regards

FOI Officer

FOI Unit – FOI and Legislation Support Section

[1]<cid:image003.png@01D51610.1D98D220>

Legal and Assurance Division | Corporate Operations Group

Legal Advice and Legislation Branch

Australian Government Department of Health

T: 02 6289 1666 | E: [2][Health request email]

GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

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If you receive this email in error, please delete it and contact the sender immediately.

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:

s 47F

This request has been made by an individual using Right to Know. This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. More information on how Right to Know works can be found at:

<https://www.righttoknow.org.au/help/officers>

If you find this service useful as an FOI officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's FOI page.

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