

Gregory Parkhurst

From: Michael Manthorpe
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 5:39 PM
To: Lisa Collett; Penny McKay
Cc: Carmen [REDACTED] s 47F
Subject: Re: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Yes, good to see. MM

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Lisa Collett [REDACTED] s 47E
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 5:33:32 PM
To: Michael Manthorpe [REDACTED] s 47E Penny McKay
[REDACTED] s 47E
Cc: Carmen [REDACTED] s 47F [REDACTED] s 47E
Subject: FW: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

MM and PMcK FYI.

Thanks for the follow up Carmen – nicely handled.

Lisa Collett
Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman

Making Privacy A Priority

Phone: [REDACTED] s 47E

Email: [REDACTED] s 47E

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



From: Carmen [REDACTED] s 47F [REDACTED] s 47E
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 9:27 AM
To: Lisa Collett [REDACTED] s 47E
Cc: Julia Taylor [REDACTED] s 47E
Subject: RE: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Right to know website have now taken down the post.

From: Carmen [REDACTED] S 47F
Sent: Friday, 30 April 2021 2:39 PM
To: Lisa Collett [REDACTED] S 47E
Subject: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

See attached response. I don't propose a reply at this stage.

I've not received a response from the R2K website and am following up.

Carmen

From: Human Resources <human.resources@ombudsman.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 4:45 PM
To: Lisa Collett [REDACTED] S 47E
Cc: Information Access <Information.Access@ombudsman.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

FYI and file please

From: Information Access
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 4:39 PM
To: foi+request-6894-e9353a90@righttoknow.org.au
Cc: contact@righttoknow.org.au
Subject: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Dear anonymous

I refer to your message of 23 April 2021 in which you have made unsubstantiated allegations about Ombudsman officers' involvement in conduct you consider to be corrupt. The Office consider this is an inappropriate and potentially unlawful use of the Right to Know (R2K) website. It is also contrary to the R2K [House Rules](#) stipulating that the site should be used 'only to request specific information, not for general correspondence with public authorities' and requests and annotations should not include potentially defamatory/potential libellous comments (such as allegations) or post information that is harassing, defamatory, abusive, threatening, harmful.

Nothing in the 23 April 2021 message relates to a request for information from the Office or progresses any avenue for review of your access request. As you have been advised in the notices of decision on your FOI request and internal review, if you disagree with the way that your FOI requests have been dealt with or the decision made, it is open to you to [make an FOI complaint or apply for Information Commissioner review](#) of the decision.

I request that :

- your message of 23 April 2021 is removed immediately
- you do not use this site to make any further such allegations; and
- ensure any further requests to or comments about officers of the Commonwealth Ombudsman on this site are within the R2K [House Rules](#).

I have copied in the R2K team to request their assistance to remove the 23 April 2021 message and for consideration of the application of their House Rules.

Yours sincerely

Carmen

Carmen s 47F

Director, Human Resources and Legal
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Proud to be working on the lands of Jagera and Turabal peoples

Phone: 1300 362 072

Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

Website: ombudsman.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

Gregory Parkhurst

From: Lisa Collett
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 5:34 PM
To: Michael Manthorpe; Penny McKay
Cc: Carmen § 47F
Subject: FW: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

MM and PMcK FYI.

Thanks for the follow up Carmen – nicely handled.

Lisa Collett
Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman
Making Privacy A Priority

Phone: § 47E

Email: § 47E

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



From: Carmen § 47F § 47E
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 9:27 AM
To: Lisa Collett § 47E
Cc: Julia Taylor § 47E
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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

See attached response. I don't propose a reply at this stage.

I've not received a response from the R2K website and am following up.

Carmen

From: Human Resources <human.resources@ombudsman.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 4:45 PM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Information Access <Information.Access@ombudsman.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

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Yours sincerely

Carmen

Carmen s 47F
Director, Human Resources and Legal
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN
Proud to be working on the lands of Jagera and Turabal peoples
Phone: 1300 362 072
Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au
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Gregory Parkhurst

From: Carmen [REDACTED] § 47F
Sent: Monday, 19 April 2021 1:46 PM
To: Penny McKay
Cc: Lisa Collett; Leisa [REDACTED] § 47F
Subject: FOI assurance process - proposed alert system [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: 20210330 - FOI email alert - template example.pdf; FOI alert template - decision notification for sensitive requests.pdf; FOI Alert - new FOI request - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX; FOI Alert - access decision [and disclosure log publication] - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Penny

As you are aware we are reviewing our FOI processes and practices, and Charine and I briefed Lisa on progress late last week. Leisa and I will shortly send you a note explaining the things that the review is exploring, and the things that have been identified in a similar review of our privacy functions.

In the course of briefing Lisa, we obtained possibly a better understanding of what you are seeking in terms of assurance about the FOI function.

To that end, as an initial change to provide greater visibility and assurance about complex and sensitive FOI requests, we propose to introduce:

1. An email alert process when such requests are received
2. A step for the relevant team/SAO to review the proposed decision on the request
3. An email alert to notify you and relevant SAOs about a decision and any documents that will be released.

We propose to introduce this for all new FOI applications received from 3 May so that we can incorporate your views/feedback, socialise with the team, and get procedures set up to implement (including talking to IT to see if this can be incorporated into the resolve workflow).

The regular reporting on significant FOI and legal matters would continue for now to provide further oversight of FOI caseload and how they are being progressed.

1 New FOI notification

When a new email is received that may attract media or other external questions, the Legal Team will send an email alert to you, the COO, relevant SAOs and the communications team

- This would include requests from an MP, Senator or journalist or where the applicant or their issue may be likely to be reported externally such as requests made via the [Right to Know website](#)
- The main purpose of this would be to provide awareness. It would also provide an opportunity to seek further information or flag urgent sensitivities if they arise.

2 Consultation with relevant managers

Before finalising a decision, the FOI officer would to seek input from the Director or SAO for the relevant business area. The Director or SAO would also be asked to advise if further briefing or consultation should be undertaken about the sensitivity of the material or broader handling in conjunction with other possibly relevant processes.

- if the documents are ones involving you or the Ombudsman personally, your views on any sensitivity about release or handling would also be sought

Document 03
Contains deletions under FOI

- This consultation would need to be prioritised and responded to within 3-5 days (hard deadline) to ensure that the Legal team are able to comply with the statutory processing times

3 FOI decision notification

An email alert will be sent to tell you, the COO, relevant SAOs and the communications team 2-3 days about a decision that has been made ahead of the FOI decision being sent

- The main purpose of this would be to provide notice of material that will be released and to prepare for possible media or other enquiries.

Examples of the email alerts are attached. It is envisaged these would be saved as email signatures by members of the Legal team to seek to streamline the process. These could be updated to incorporate any changes to content or distribution approach you would prefer or refined over time.

Happy to discuss

Kind regards

Carmen and Leisa

Bennett, Charine

Subject: FOI Alert - publication/release to media - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX

[Address to relevant SAO/Team leader cc COO, media team]

Good morning /afternoon

A decision has been made to give access to documents regarding [topic] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Possible media or other enquiries may arise.

A copy of the decision is attached. Documents required to be provided to the FOI applicant [say who] on [date] are at [location/link]. Documents are/are not required to be published on the [Ombudsman disclosure log](#).

The documents also relate to [other Department /agency] – they have been / are being notified about this release.

If you require further information, please contact me (or the FOI decision-maker).

Kind regards

[Director Legal or Senior FOI Officer]

Charine Bennett

Subject: FOI Alert - access decision [and disclosure log publication] - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX

[Address to relevant SAO cc Team leader, COO, Deputy Ombudsman, media team]

Good morning/afternoon

I have made a decision under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to give [applicant eg MP, Senator, journalist, person via Right to Know website] access to documents [regarding topic/ relevant to [quote or paraphrase request]. [adjust to explain if the decision is to refuse access or that no documents exist and this may also be sensitive]

I have taken into account input from [you or name of Director] in making my decision.

A copy of the decision that will be sent on [date] is attached. Documents required to be provided to the FOI applicant are at [link]. Documents are /are not required to be published on the Ombudsman disclosure log.

The documents also relate to [other Department/agency] who have been /are being notified about this release. [add brief explanation about whether any information other agency objected to is to be disclosed].

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information at this point.

Kind regards

Gregory Parkhurst

Subject: FOI Alert - new FOI request - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX

[Address to relevant SAO cc Team leader, COO, Deputy Ombudsman, media team]

Good morning/afternoon

The office has received a new freedom of information (FOI) request that may be sensitive or complex. [applicant eg MP, Senator, journalist, person via Right to Know website] has requested access to [quote or paraphrase request].

I am the FOI decision maker for this request. I will consult with [the relevant team] about any sensitivities relevant to the decision and views on any further consultation that may be appropriate for this request.

This initial 30 day processing period for the request is [date].

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information at this point.

Kind regards

Gregory Parkhurst

Subject: FOI Alert - access decision [and disclosure log publication] - [brief description] - FOI 20XX-XXXX

[Address to relevant SAO cc Team leader, COO, Deputy Ombudsman, media team]

Good morning/afternoon

I have made a decision under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to give [applicant eg MP, Senator, journalist, person via Right to Know website] access to documents [regarding topic/ relevant to [quote or paraphrase request]. [adjust to explain if the decision is to refuse access or that no documents exist and this may also be sensitive]

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The documents also relate to [other Department/agency] who have been /are being notified about this release. [add brief explanation about whether any information other agency objected to is to be disclosed].

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information at this point.

Kind regards

Gregory Parkhurst

From: Penny McKay
Sent: Wednesday, 5 May 2021 8:07 AM
To: Michael Manthorpe; Lisa Collett
Cc: Carmen s 47F
Subject: RE: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Carmen.

Penny McKay

DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Making Privacy A Priority

Phone: s 47E | Mob: s 47E

Email: s 47E

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



From: Michael Manthorpe s 47E
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 5:39 PM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E Penny McKay s 47E
Cc: Carmen s 47F s 47E
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Yes, good to see. MM

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s 47E
Cc: Carmen s 47F s 47E
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MM and PMcK FYI.

Thanks for the follow up Carmen – nicely handled.

Lisa Collett

Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman

Making Privacy A Priority

Phone: § 47E

Email: § 47E

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



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Cc: Julia Taylor § 47E
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See attached response. I don't propose a reply at this stage.

I've not received a response from the R2K website and am following up.

Carmen

From: Human Resources <human.resources@ombudsman.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 4:45 PM
To: Lisa Collett § 47E
Cc: Information Access <Information.Access@ombudsman.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Allegations about Ombudsman officers [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

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Yours sincerely

Carmen

Carmen s 47F

Director, Human Resources and Legal

COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Proud to be working on the lands of Jagera and Turabal peoples

Phone: 1300 362 072

Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

Website: ombudsman.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

Gregory Parkhurst

From: Michael Manthorpe
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 2:12 PM
To: Lisa Collett; Penny McKay
Cc: Carmen [s 47F]; Leisa [s 47F]
Subject: RE: For your consideration: Former Officers named on Right to Know Website [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Lisa

I've discussed with Penny and we both agree this is the right approach. It is absolutely unacceptable to make wild allegations about the integrity of our staff, or former staff, in this way. Pls proceed as proposed.

MM

Michael Manthorpe
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN
Phone: [s 47E]
Mob: [s 47E]
Email: [s 47E]
Website: ombudsman.gov.au



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The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

From: Lisa Collett [s 47E]
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 12:10 PM
To: Penny McKay [s 47E]; Michael Manthorpe [s 47E]
Cc: Carmen [s 47F]; [s 47E]; Leisa [s 47F]
Subject: For your consideration: Former Officers named on Right to Know Website [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

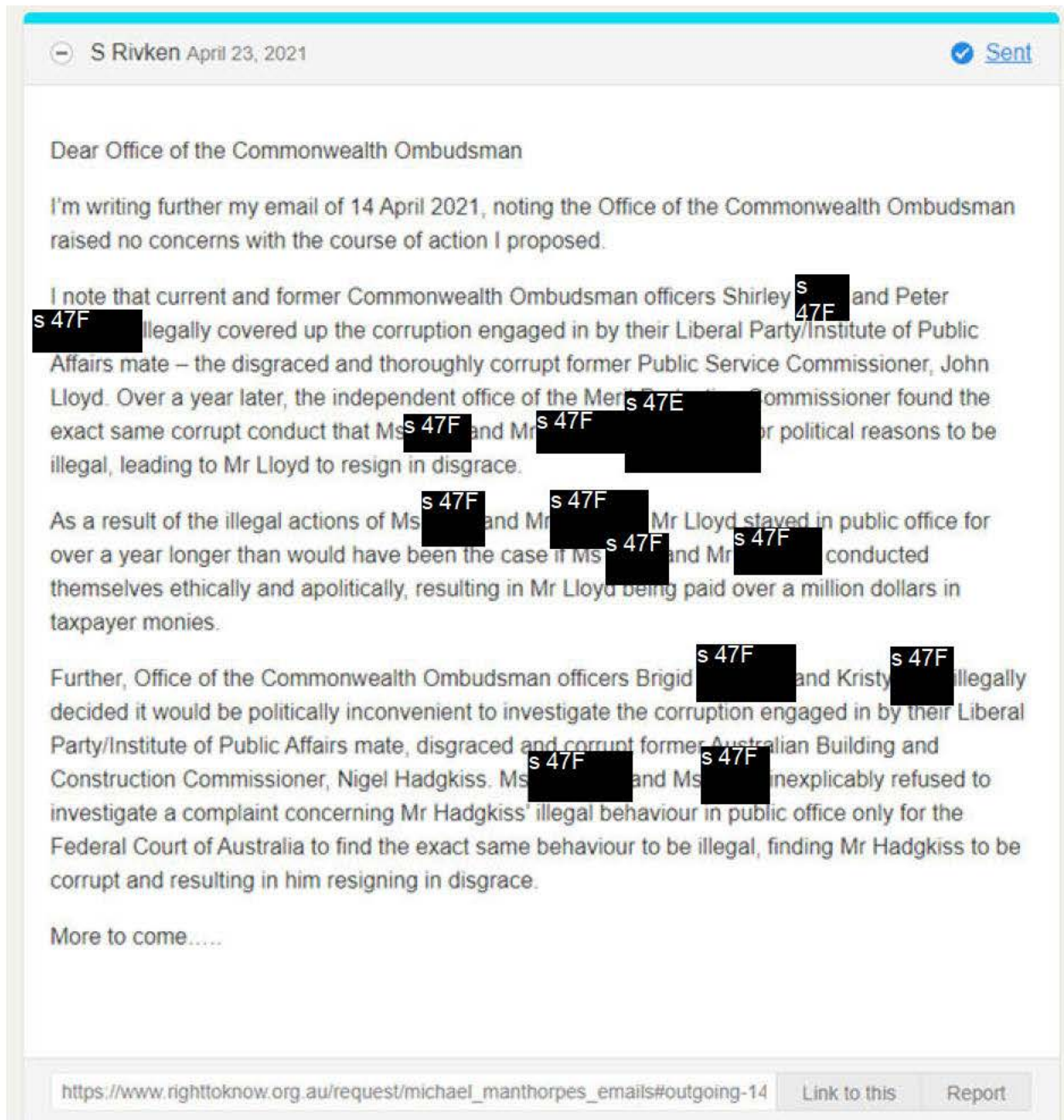
OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

MM and PMcK

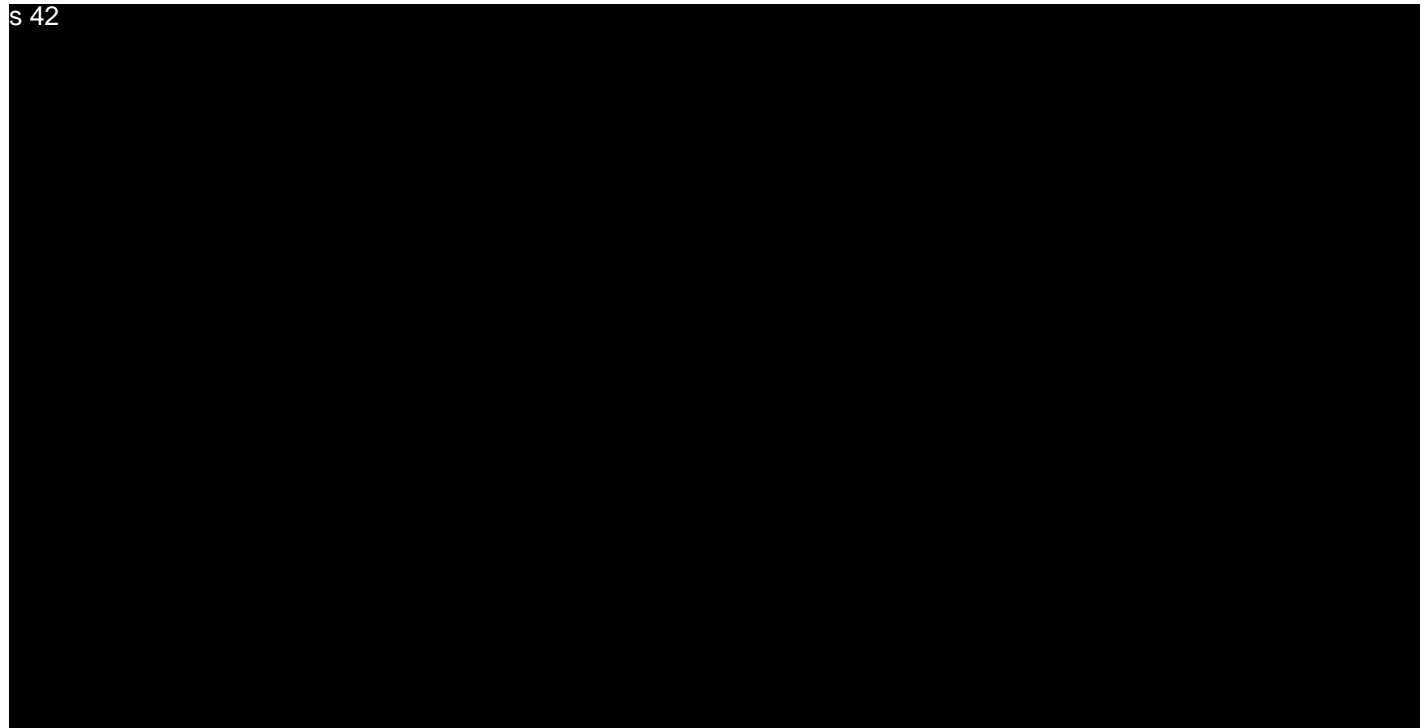
The Right to know website has published the names of four of our former staff – Shirley s 47F Peter s 47F Kristy s 47F and Brigid s 47F

The have posted the below:



s 42

s 42



Grateful for your thoughts on this one.

Many thanks
Lisa

Lisa Collett
Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman
Proud to be working on the lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples
Phone: s 47E
Email: s 47E
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



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From: Carmen s 47F s 47E

Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 11:16 AM

To: Lisa Collett s 47E

Cc: Legal s 47E

Subject: FW: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Lisa

Further advice below – will call to discuss.

Carmen

From: Charine Bennett s 47E
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 11:09 AM
To: Leisa s 47F s 47E
Cc: Carmen s 47F s 47F Bennett, Charine <Charine.Bennett@ags.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

s 42



s 42

Charine Bennett

Outposted Lawyer | Legal Team
Corporate Branch
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Phone: s 47E
Email: s 47E
Website: ombudsman.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration



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From: Leisa s 47F | s 47E
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 10:17 AM
To: Charine Bennett s 47E | Bennett, Charine <Charine.Bennett@ags.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Charine,

Please see chain of emails below including Carmen's from yesterday. You will see that unfortunately your prepared response was not sent to Anonymous before the actual post occurred on R2K. We would be grateful for any advice you might have on further actions that are available to us. Lisa C was considering the approach suggested by Carmen yesterday, but I understand the email has not yet been sent. Happy to chat if you need. Carmen is away but is available by text if you need to speak with her directly.

Thanks,
Leisa

Leisa s 47F
Legal Team
Corporate Branch
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN
Phone: s 47E

Email: s 47E
Website: ombudsman.gov.au

Please note that I work part time Mon – Wed. Alternatively you may contact the Legal Team s 47E



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

IMPORTANT: This message may contain confidential or legally privileged information, disclosing the contents or discussing them with a third party may result in any privilege being lost. Please do not speak to anyone outside our agency about this email (or any of its attachments) without first consulting the Legal Team. If you think this email was sent to you by mistake, please delete all copies and advise the sender



From: Carmen s 47F s 47E
Sent: Tuesday, 27 April 2021 10:18 AM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E Julia Taylor s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E Leisa s 47F s 47E
Legal s 47E
Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085

[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hello

The applicant has published names on 23 April - and before I could write to them as planned - I checked the page on Friday afternoon but didn't check over the weekend - see last message in the attached page.

https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/michael_manthorpes_emails#outgoing-14474

The response that was to be sent was in these terms

Dear Anonymous

We refer to your comment of 14 April 2021 that 'In anticipation of another politically motivated and improperly made access refusal or charges decision, I intend .. naming former and current Ombudsman officers' involved in conduct you consider to be corrupt.

The Right to Know website publishes House Rules stipulating that the site should be used 'only to request specific information, not for general correspondence with public authorities' and requests and annotations should not include potentially defamatory/potential libellous comments (such as allegations) or post information that is harassing, defamatory, abusive, threatening, harmful.

If you disagree with the way that your FOI requests have been dealt with or the decision made, it is open to you to make an FOI complaint or apply for Information Commissioner review of the decision.

We would consider adding the words 'and your post of 23 April' at the end of the first sentence above and then seek further advice on action. Leisa – perhaps you could contact Charine for advice?

Carmen

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

From: Lisa Collett [s 47E](#)

Sent: Friday, 23 April 2021 1:36 PM

To: Carmen [s 47F](#) [s 47E](#)

Cc: Claire [s 47F](#) [s 47E](#)

Legal [s 47E](#)

Leisa [s 47F](#) [s 47E](#) [au](#)>;

Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085

[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi All

I spoke with MM and PMck about this at my catch up this week.

The agree with the advice we have received in terms of our response. Carmen I assume this one will sit in the legal team to manage?

Thanks

Lisa

Lisa Collett
Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman
Proud to be working on the lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples
Phone: s 47E
Email: s 47E
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

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

From: Carmen s 47F s 47E
Sent: Monday, 19 April 2021 1:53 PM
To: Julia Taylor s 47E Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E Leisa s 47F s 47E
Legal s 47E
Subject: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive
Dear Julia and Lisa

Please see attached advice on possible handling of potential publication of officer names.

I'll set up some time to discuss with you tomorrow.

Kind regards
Carmen
s
47E

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

From: Carmen s 47F
Sent: Friday, 16 April 2021 12:55 PM
To: Julia Taylor s 47E Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E
Subject: RE: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive
I've spoken to Claire this morning and I think we have identified staff in relation to the disclosures about the former Commissioner.

I've not been able to identify who might be involved in the earlier disclosure referred to (2016).

Carmen

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

From: Julia Taylor s 47E

Sent: Friday, 16 April 2021 12:49 PM

To: Carmen [s 47F] [s 47E] Lisa Collett [s 47E]

Cc: Caitlin [s 47F] [s 47E]

Subject: RE: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Carmen, do we know which staff this is referring to?

Julia Taylor

A/g Deputy Ombudsman

Indigenous Executive Champion

COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Proud to be working on the lands of Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples

Phone: [s 47E]

Mobile: [s 47E]

Email: [s 47E]

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

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

From: Carmen [s 47F] [s 47E]

Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 9:57 PM

To: Lisa Collett [s 47E] Julia Taylor [s 47E]

Cc: Caitlin [s 47F] [s 47E]

Subject: FYI: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Lisa and Julia

Lisa - this is the correspondence I mentioned in my previous email. The applicant is saying that they are going to name 'the former and current Commonwealth Ombudsman officers involved in the corruption referred to in my email of 15 February 2020'.

The email refers to public interest disclosures made to this office about former APS Commissioner John Lloyd in 2018. Further detail is in the attached.

Carmen

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

From: Caitlin [s 47F] [s 47E]

Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 4:35 PM

To: Carmen [s 47F] [s 47E]

Subject: FW: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good Afternoon Carmen,

Please see the email below from the FOI applicant - unsure who would be 'named'? happy to discuss. I believe the individual is referring to their email of 15 February 2021 (attached).

I am due to provide a decision notice on their other FOI request (FOI-2021-10009) by COB tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Caitlin S 47F

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

From: S Rivken <foi+request-6894-e9353a90@righttoknow.org.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 14 April 2021 5:30 PM

To: Information Access <Information.Access@ombudsman.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085

Dear Information Access,

In anticipation of another politically motivated and improperly made access refusal or charges decision, I intend on naming the former and current Commonwealth Ombudsman officers involved in the corruption referred to in my email of 15 February 2020 (noting that there is no independent body to which Commonwealth public sector corruption, such as that engaged in by those officers, can be referred for investigation).

That act will obviously be of some assistance to any incoming Government intent on restoring the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman to once again being an independent and apolitical body that conducts itself with honesty and integrity. If the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman has any legitimate concerns with that proposed course of action, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

S Rivken

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

Dear Anonymous

Please see attached my decision in relation to your request for an internal review of Mr Parkhurst's decision dated 14 January 2021.

If you have any queries, you are welcome to contact me on the details below.

Kind regards,

Fiona S 47F

Lawyer | Legal Team

Commonwealth Ombudsman

Ph: 1300 362 072 | Fax: 02 6276 0123

email: [1][CO request email]

The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

References

Visible links

1. [mailto:\[CO request email\]](mailto:foi+request-6894-e9353a90@righttoknow.org.au)

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

foi+request-6894-e9353a90@righttoknow.org.au

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://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.righttoknow.org.au%2Fhelp%2Fofficers∓data=04%7C01%7CInformation.Access%40ombudsman.gov.au%7C9afa012e21f0437b227108d8ff171ea9%7C443ee9e811ff4c829e4139331045260a%7C0%7C1%7C637539822128270886%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000∓sdata=hYuhyMVsybSTRSoWluDxF%2BxVzmWGK%2FHJZtiXY1xLn4%3D∓reserved=0>

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

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.

Gregory Parkhurst

From: Lisa Collett
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 12:10 PM
To: Penny McKay; Michael Manthorpe
Cc: Carmen [REDACTED] Leisa [REDACTED]
Subject: For your consideration: Former Officers named on Right to Know Website [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: Capture.PNG

Importance: High

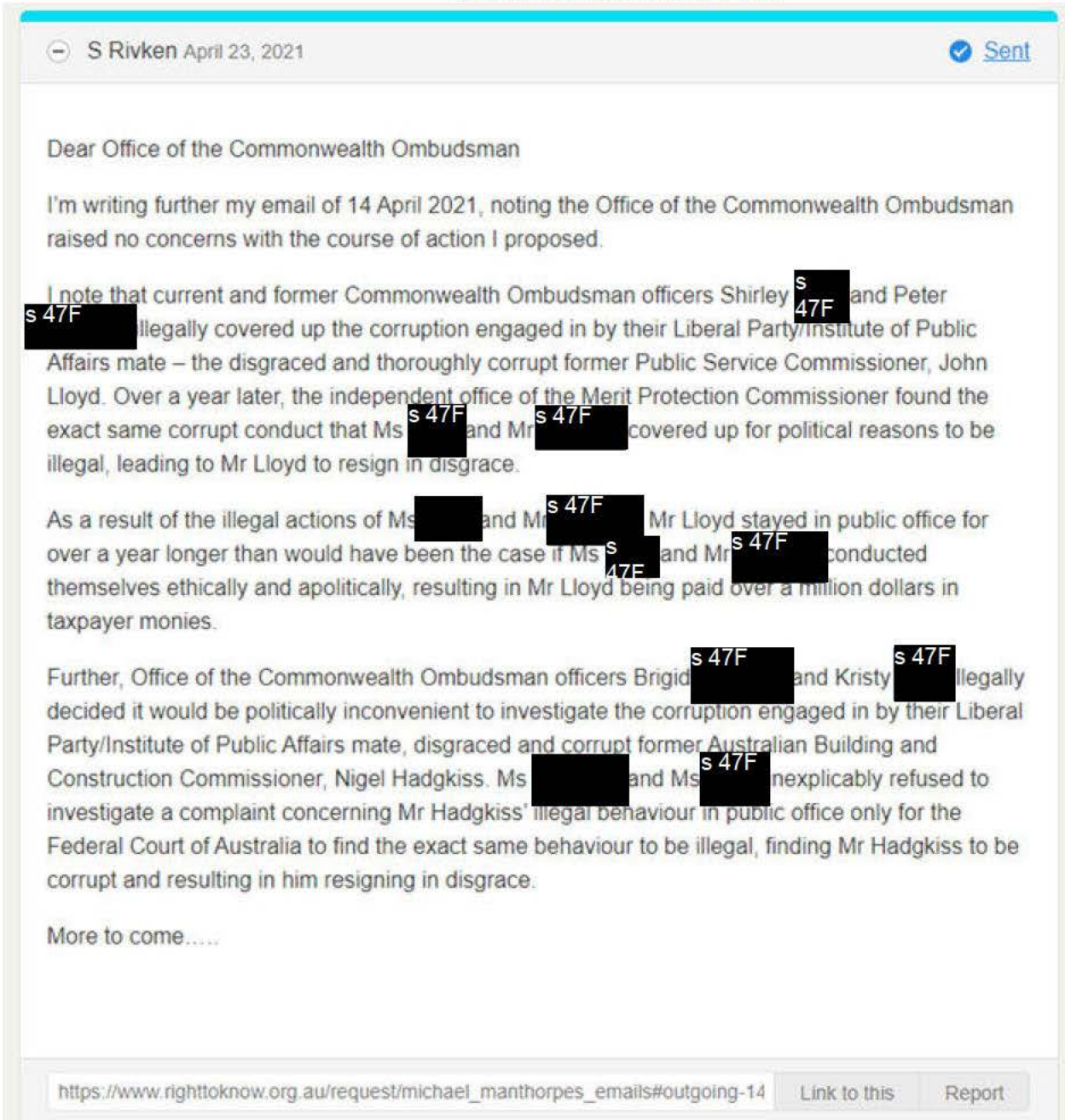
OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

MM and PMcK

The Right to know website has published the names of four of our former staff – Shirley [REDACTED] Peter [REDACTED] Kristy [REDACTED] and Brigid [REDACTED]

The have posted the below:



We recommend that we send the below to Right to know via our Human Resources team:

s 42



s 42



Grateful for your thoughts on this one.

Many thanks
Lisa

Lisa Collett
Chief Operating Officer
Commonwealth Ombudsman
Proud to be working on the lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples
Phone: s 47E
Email: s 47E
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

From: Carmen s 47F <s 47E>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 11:16 AM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Legal s 47E
Subject: FW: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Lisa

Further advice below – will call to discuss.

Carmen

From: Charine Bennett s 47E
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 11:09 AM
To: Leisa s 47F s 47E
Cc: Carmen s 47F s 47E Bennett, Charine <Charine.Bennett@ags.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

s 42



s 42

Charine Bennett

Outposted Lawyer | Legal Team
Corporate Branch
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Phone: s 47E

Email: s 47E

Website: ombudsman.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration



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From: Leisa s 47F s 47E
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 10:17 AM
To: Charine Bennett s 47E Bennett, Charine <Charine.Bennett@ags.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Charine,

Please see chain of emails below including Carmen’s from yesterday. You will see that unfortunately your prepared response was not sent to Anonymous before the actual post occurred on R2K. We would be grateful for any advice you might have on further actions that are available to us. Lisa C was considering the approach suggested by Carmen

yesterday, but I understand the email has not yet been sent. Happy to chat if you need. Carmen is away but is available by text if you need to speak with her directly.

Thanks,
Leisa

Leisa s 47F
Legal Team
Corporate Branch
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN
Phone: s 47E

Email: s 47E
Website: ombudsman.gov.au

Please note that I work part time Mon – Wed. Alternatively you may contact the Legal Team s 47E



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

IMPORTANT: This message may contain confidential or legally privileged information, disclosing the contents or discussing them with a third party may result in any privilege being lost. Please do not speak to anyone outside our agency about this email (or any of its attachments) without first consulting the Legal Team. If you think this email was sent to you by mistake, please delete all copies and advise the sender



From: Carmen s 47F s 47E
Sent: Tuesday, 27 April 2021 10:18 AM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E Julia Taylor s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E Leisa s 47F s 47E
Legal s 47E
Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hello

The applicant has published names on 23 April - and before I could write to them as planned - I checked the page on Friday afternoon but didn't check over the weekend - see last message in the attached page.

https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/michael_manthorpes_emails#outgoing-14474

The response that was to be sent was in these terms

Dear Anonymous

We refer to your comment of 14 April 2021 that 'In anticipation of another politically motivated and improperly made access refusal or charges decision, I intend .. naming former and current Ombudsman officers' involved in conduct you consider to be corrupt.

The Right to Know website publishes House Rules stipulating that the site should be used 'only to request specific information, not for general correspondence with public authorities' and requests and annotations should not include potentially defamatory/potential libellous comments (such as allegations) or post information that is harassing, defamatory, abusive, threatening, harmful.

If you disagree with the way that your FOI requests have been dealt with or the decision made, it is open to you to make an FOI complaint or apply for Information Commissioner review of the decision.

We would consider adding the words 'and your post of 23 April' at the end of the first sentence above and then seek further advice on action. Leisa – perhaps you could contact Charine for advice?

Carmen

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

From: Lisa Collett s 47E

Sent: Friday, 23 April 2021 1:36 PM

To: Carmen s 47F s 47E

Julia Taylor s 47E

Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E

Leisa s 47F

s 47E

Legal s 47E

Subject: RE: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi All

I spoke with MM and PMck about this at my catch up this week.

The agree with the advice we have received in terms of our response. Carmen I assume this one will sit in the legal team to manage?

Thanks

Lisa

Lisa Collett

Chief Operating Officer

Commonwealth Ombudsman

Proud to be working on the lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples

Phone: s 47E

Email: s 47E
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

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

From: Carmen s 47F s 47E
Sent: Monday, 19 April 2021 1:53 PM
To: Julia Taylor s 47E Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E Leisa s 47F s 47E
Legal s 47E
Subject: Response to email about publishing officers names: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive
Dear Julia and Lisa

Please see attached advice on possible handling of potential publication of officer names.

I'll set up some time to discuss with you tomorrow.

Kind regards
Carmen
s 47E

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

From: Carmen s 47F
Sent: Friday, 16 April 2021 12:55 PM
To: Julia Taylor s 47E Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Claire s 47F s 47E
Subject: RE: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive
I've spoken to Claire this morning and I think we have identified staff in relation to the disclosures about the former Commissioner.

I've not been able to identify who might be involved in the earlier disclosure referred to (2016).

Carmen

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

From: Julia Taylor s 47E
Sent: Friday, 16 April 2021 12:49 PM
To: Carmen s 47F s 47E Lisa Collett s 47E
Cc: Caitlin s 47F s 47E
Subject: RE: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Carmen, do we know which staff this is referring to?

Julia Taylor
A/g Deputy Ombudsman
Indigenous Executive Champion
COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN
Proud to be working on the lands of Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples

Phone: s 47E
Mobile: s 47E
Email: s 47E
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

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

From: Carmen s 47F s 47E
Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 9:57 PM
To: Lisa Collett s 47E Julia Taylor s 47E
Cc: Caitlin s 47F s 47E
Subject: FYI: Your internal review request: FOI-2020-10085 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Lisa and Julia

Lisa - this is the correspondence I mentioned in my previous email. The applicant is saying that they are going to name 'the former and current Commonwealth Ombudsman officers involved in the corruption referred to in my email of 15 February 2020'.

The email refers to public interest disclosures made to this office about former APS Commissioner John Lloyd in 2018. Further detail is in the attached.

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S Rivken

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Kind regards,

Fiona  47F

Lawyer | Legal Team

Commonwealth Ombudsman

Ph: 1300 362 072 | Fax: 02 6276 0123

email: [1][CO request email]

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References

Visible links

1. [mailto:\[CO request email\]](mailto:[CO request email])

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

foi+request-6894-e9353a90@righttoknow.org.au

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://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.righttoknow.org.au%2Fhelp%2Fofficers∓data=04%7C01%7CInformation.Access%40ombudsman.gov.au%7C9afa012e21f0437b227108d8ff171ea9%7C443ee9e811ff4c829e4139331045260a%7C0%7C1%7C637539822128270886%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlIjojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C2000&psdata=hYuhyMVsybSTRSoWluDxF%2BxVzmWGK%2FHJZtiXY1xLn4%3D&reserved=0>

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