

## Reasons for decision

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### What you requested

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"all documents, including email, dated from 2016 to 2020, relating to the decision to change EVACS's behaviour in its grouping of transfer values for the 2020 election count."

### What I took into account

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In reaching my decision, I took into account:

- Your original access application dated 8 December 2020
- The documents containing the information that fall within the scope of your access application
- Consultations with third parties about information concerning them
- The FOI Act
- The ACT Ombudsman's FOI guidelines documentation

### Reasons for my decision

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I am authorised to make decisions under section 18 of the FOI Act.

I have decided that some parts of some documents that contain the information you requested contain information that is either out of scope in relation to your access information or includes personal contact information such as mobile phone numbers or email address that are unnecessary for your application. Accordingly, where applicable, I have redacted this information in accordance with s 50 of the FOI Act and have notated as such via pinned comments within the relevant pdf copy of the document.

#### **Schedule 2, section 2.2(a)(ii)**

I have decided that the prejudice to individuals' privacy is the determinative factor in favour of non-disclosure of parts of documents 1 and 2.

Schedule 2, section 2.2(a)(ii) is a factor favouring nondisclosure if:

disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.

I am satisfied the disclosure of some information contained in this document could reasonably be expected to prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy.

The information I have decided not to disclose includes an individual's personal contact phone number and email address.

The public interest test set out in section 17 of the FOI Act involves a process of balancing public interest factors favouring disclosure against public interest factors favouring nondisclosure to decide whether, on balance, disclosure would be contrary to the public interest.

When weighing up the public interest for and against disclosure under Schedule 2 of the FOI Act, I have taken into account relevant factors in favour of disclosure. In particular, I have considered the extent to which disclosure would promote the objects of the FOI Act and promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability.

Based on the above, I have decided that in this instance, the public interest in disclosing this private contact information in these documents is outweighed by the public interest against disclosure because the disclosure of information of this nature would significantly prejudice the relevant individual's privacy.

On this basis, I am satisfied disclosure of some information contained in this document could reasonably be expected to prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy.

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