

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 15 December 2022 4:55 PM
To: CIT Office of the Chief Executive <CITOfficeoftheChiefExecutive@cit.edu.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] FOI Request

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Hello,

I write seeking access to documents under the Freedom of Information Act 2016.

I seek information held by the Canberra Institute of Technology.

From November 1, 2021 to December 15, 2022.

- a) Any correspondence between CIT officials and Think Garden, in relation to a \$4.99m contract entered into for consultancy work with Think Garden.
- b) Any correspondence between CIT officials in relation to publicity or media coverage around discussions of Ms Cover's conduct, role as CEO and the Think Garden contract.
- c) Any correspondence between CIT officials and CEO Leanne Cover regarding her involvement in these contracts and arrangements for leave during investigations into the contract.
- d) Any correspondence between CIT officials in relation to CEO Leanne Cover and Patrick Hollingworth.
- e) Any correspondence between CEO Leanne Cover and Patrick Hollingworth.
- f) Any correspondence between CIT officials regarding a payout of Ms Cover's contract and / or her arrangements to leave her role as CEO.
- g) Any correspondence in relation to exit arrangements from the Think Garden contract.

I feel that the release of this information is strongly in the public interest, and its release supported in the 2016 FOI Act as follows:

- (a) Provide a right of access to government information unless access to the information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest; and
- (b) recognise the importance of public access to government information for the proper working of a representative democracy; and
- (c) enable the public to participate more effectively in government processes and to promote improved decision-making within government; and
- (d) make the people and bodies that are responsible for governing the Territory more accountable to the public; and
- (e) ensure that, to the fullest extent possible, government information is freely and publicly available to everyone; and

(f) facilitate and promote, promptly and at the lowest reasonable cost, the disclosure of the maximum amount of government information;

I also note the onus rests with the agency to prove why any information should not be released under the Act and I request the agency provide evidence in support of any assumptions or assertions used to justify non-disclosure.

Under the FOI Act, Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) must make available a range of documents through the ACT Government's Open Access information site including:

- functional information.
- information about the work of the agency tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
- the Directorate's policy documents.
- budget papers.
- information on grants made or administered by the agency.

I also advise the agency I am seeking any available reduction in fees and charges associated with this request as release of the information will: contribute to community understanding on public affairs and inform debate and improve government accountability and transparency. Further, the [REDACTED] is a non-profit, publicly funded broadcaster and warrants a remission of fees and charges on that basis.

If I can assist with the processing of my request, including negotiation of scope, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

