

Our reference: CIT FOI 2025–010(1)

By email: [REDACTED]

DECISION ON YOUR ACCESS APPLICATION – CIT FOI 2025-010(1)

I refer to your access application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (FOI Act) received by Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) on 15 October 2025.

In your application you requested access to the following information that may be held by CIT:

“All information in relation to the procurement and undertaking of work by Samurai with CIT’s Board members, executive team and senior leadership team, between 2018 to date”.

On 17 October 2025, you clarified the request to include:

“REQUESTING SAMURAI DOCUMENTS ENTITLED “BOARD STRATEGY WORKSHOP DRAFT WRITEUP”, “GLIMPSES OF 2021” AND “LEADERSHIP APPROACH LETTER” OR SIMILAR”.

I wrote to you on 25 November 2025 to advise that CIT has identified information related to third parties and that CIT would consult with the third parties before making a decision on the release of the information you have requested.

I advise that the third-party consultation is now complete.

Authority

I am a Senior Executive officer appointed as a CIT Information Officer to make decisions about access to government information, in accordance with Section 18 of the FOI Act.

Document Search and Material Considered

Thorough searches for records held by CIT were undertaken to identify and locate any documents within the scope of your request. A total of 35 pages were identified within the scope of your access application using the search terms you provided.

Decision

I have decided to fully release 35 pages to you.

A schedule of all documents is included as **Attachment A**. All response documents are included as **Attachment B**.

My statement of reasons for this decision is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my decision on your access application, I have taken the following into account:

- Your original access application and subsequent clarifications.
- Third party consultation
- The FOI Act 2016.
- The ACT Ombudsman FOI Guidelines.
- The documents which fall within the scope of your request.

As a decision maker I am required to decide if release of the documents found to be within the scope of your request are within the public interest. Schedule 1 of the FOI Act provides categories of documents where release is not considered to be in the public interest. On reviewing the documents within the scope of your request, I do not consider that any of these documents fall within the categories prescribed under Schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

As I am not satisfied that any of the documents within the scope of your request are exempted from release in accordance with Schedule 1 of the FOI Act, I am required to consider the factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure as found in Schedule 2.

Section 17(1) of the FOI Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure:

I consider that the following factors favouring disclosure apply in relation to these documents.

- promote open discussion and accountability (section 2.1 (a)(i))
- ensure effective oversight of expenditure of public funds (section 2.1(iv))
- reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision (section 2.1(a)(viii)).

I consider the information requested would, on balance, support the factors favouring disclosure described as the release of this information promotes accountability.

Factors favouring non-disclosure:

I have not identified any factors favouring non-disclosure in relation to these documents.

Charges

You have not been charged for this request.

Disclosure Log

Section 28 of the FOI Act requires publication of access applications and any information subsequently released on CIT's disclosure log at:

<https://cit.edu.au/about/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log>.

Review Rights

You may apply to the ACT Ombudsman to review my decision under Section 73 of the FOI Act. An application for review must be made in writing within 20 days of the date of my decision.

You may submit a request for review of my decision to the ACT Ombudsman by writing in one of the following ways:

Email (preferred): actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

Post: The ACT Ombudsman

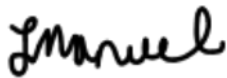
GPO Box 442

CANBERRA ACT 2601

More information about ACT Ombudsman review is available on the ACT Ombudsman website at:

<http://www.ombudsman.act.gov.au/improving-the-act/freedom-of-information>.

Yours sincerely



Tania Manuel

Executive Branch Manager, Policy and Governance

Canberra Institute of Technology

12 March 2026