



Australian Government
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman

Mr Felix Barbelet

felix@pv.tl

Dear Mr Barbelet

Freedom of Information Request no. 2013/1

I refer to your request for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Your FOI request is as follows:

“Under the FOI Act I wish to obtain a full copy of all Private Health Insurance Policy Standard Information Statement data entered into the PrivateHealth.gov.au Content Management System - for both policies currently available for purchase and policies no longer available for purchase.

I request that it be supplied in an electronic tabular form (e.g. database tables, comma-separated ASCII fields, etc) and not in a pseudo-print form.”

The Private Health Insurance Ombudsman (PHIO) received your request on Tuesday, 1st October 2013 and the 30 day statutory period for processing your request commenced from the day after that date. You will be notified of any charges in relation to your request as soon as possible, before we process any requested documents or impose a final charge.

As your request covers documents which contain information concerning the business, commercial or financial affairs of a number of organisations, PHIO is required to consult with these organisations, under section 27 of the FOI Act, before making a decision on the release of those documents.

For this reason, the period for processing your request has been extended by 30 days in order to allow our agency time to consult with third parties. The processing period for your request will now end on 30th November 2013.

The consultation mechanism under section 27 of the FOI Act applies when we believe an organisation may wish to contend that the requested documents are exempt because their release would disclose trade secrets or commercially valuable information or may adversely affect their business or financial affairs. We will take into account any comments we receive from the organisations concerned, but the final decision about whether to grant you access to the documents you requested rests with PHIO.

More information about exemptions under the FOI Act is available in Fact Sheet 8 published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (attached).

Please note that information released under the FOI Act may later be published online on our disclosure log <http://www.phio.org.au/about-phio/freedom-of-information/freedom-of-information-requests-disclosure-log.aspx>, subject to certain exceptions.

We will contact you using the email address you provided. Please advise if you would prefer us to use an alternative means of contact.

Yours sincerely



David McGregor

Director Policy & Client Services

Private Health Insurance Ombudsman

10 October 2013