

From: FOIUnit fo unit@dpc.wa.gov.au
Subject: 82-06395 - Acknowledgement and Clarification – Review Rights for
FOI Application
Date: 9 Mar 2026 at 3:39:49 pm
To: Hanyu helloluna520@gmail.com

OFFICIAL

Hi Hanyu,

Thank you for your email and your application for internal review of the Notice of Decision for FOI application [82-06395](#).

For clarity, the Notice of Decision issued to you included information regarding **your review rights** (paragraphs 32–36), advising that:

- you may lodge a complaint with the Western Australian Information Commissioner within **60 days** of receiving the written decision;
- a complaint must be in writing, include a copy of the decision, and provide an address in Australia;
- there is **no charge** to lodge a complaint; and
- contact details for the Office of the Information Commissioner were provided.

Under **Division 5 – Internal review of decisions as to access**, section 39(3) of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA)* provides that internal review is **not available** where the original decision was made by the **agency's principal officer**.

Under **section 100**, the **principal officer** of a Minister's agency is the **Minister**. As the original Notice of Decision for FOI 82-06395 was made by the **Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC** as the principal officer, an internal review cannot be conducted under section 39(3)(a). However, in light of the matters you have raised, the following information may assist:

Ground 1 – Timeframe / scope

You noted an inconsistency between the timeframe stated in the decision and the date range covered by the documents.

The reference in the decision to a timeframe of **1 February 2024 to 18 November 2025** was made in error. Searches were in fact undertaken for the full period **1 February 2022 to 18 November 2025**, consistent with your application seeking AWAC annual reports and advice from February 2022 to present.

This is reflected in the release of Documents 3 and 4 fall within this

requested period. The **AWAC was not functioning in 2024–2025**, and therefore **no Annual Reports were produced** for those years exist.

Ground 2 – Search methodology

You requested supplementary searches using a broader set of proposed keywords.

Many of the suggested terms are extremely broad (e.g., “DI”, “inspector”, “briefing”, “training”, “risk assessment”, “SOP”, “bill”, “amendment”, “submission”, “governance”). When applied across Ministerial Office systems, these terms would generate a substantial volume of documents unrelated to AWAC or the Designated Inspector Program.

For example:

- “DI” is used across government to mean “Deputy Inspector”, “Deputy Director”, “Draft Instructions”, and other unrelated acronyms.
- Terms such as “inspector”, “training”, “governance”, “risk assessment”, “SOP”, and “submission” routinely appear in Ministerial materials across numerous portfolios.
- Legislative and parliamentary terms such as “bill”, “amendment”, “drafting instructions”, and “Estimates” would retrieve documents across a wide range of policy areas unrelated to the scope of this FOI application.

Running all proposed generic terms would:

- Capture potentially hundreds of unrelated documents;
- significantly increase processing time without improving search accuracy;
- dilute the relevance of search results; and
- retrieve documents with no connection to AWAC or the Designated Inspector Program.

Narrowing searches to clear, unambiguous, subject-specific terms (e.g. “Animal Welfare Advisory Committee”, “designated inspector”) produces a more accurate and manageable set of documents directly relevant to the Application.

Ground 3 – Clause 1(2) consideration

You queried whether separable factual or technical material could be released from Documents 1, 1a, 1b and 1c.

The application of **clause 1(2)** was considered by the Minister. Paragraph 28 of the Notice of Decision sets out the Minister's concluding that, in this case, no factual material could be separated without revealing deliberations of an Executive Body, and that edited access was therefore not possible.

Next steps

As the decision was made by the principal officer, an **internal review cannot be undertaken** under section 39(3)(a). You retain the right to seek **external review** by the Office of the Information Commissioner within **60 days** of receiving the Notice of Decision.

Office of the Information Commissioner
469 Wellington Street
PERTH WA 6000
Tel: (08) 6551 7888

Please let me know if you have any further questions or if you require any clarification about the review process.

Kind regards,
Ian

Ian McCavanagh | Freedom Of Information Coordinator | Office of the General Counsel
T: [08 6552 6806](tel:0865526806)

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From: Hanyu <helloluna520@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 8 March 2026 6:34 PM
To: FOIUnit <foiunit@dpc.wa.gov.au>
Cc: Minister Jarvis <Minister.Jarvis@dpc.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Follow-up: Internal Review Request – FOI [82-06395](#)

Dear FOI Unit,

I am following up on my internal review request for FOI application [82-06395](#), sent to this email address on 2 March 2026.

Could you please confirm:

- that my internal review request has been received; and
- the due date for the internal review decision.

For convenience, I attach the internal review request again.

Kind regards,

Hanyu Liu

----- Original -----

From: helloluna520 <helloluna520@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 2, 2026 10:25 PM

To: FOIUnit <foiunit@dpc.wa.gov.au>

Cc: Minister Jarvis <Minister.Jarvis@dpc.wa.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Internal Review Request – FOI [82-06395](#) (Minister for Agriculture and Food)

Dear Principal Officer / Internal Review Officer,

I apply for internal review of the Notice of Decision for FOI application [82-06395](#).

Ground 1 – Timeframe / scope misapplied

The decision states the timeframe for my request is **1 February 2024 to 18 November 2025**, however my application sought AWAC annual reports and AWAC advice from **February 2022 to present**, as reflected in the scope section of the decision.

The decision also granted access to AWAC annual reports dated 2022 and 2023, which is inconsistent with a 2024–2025 timeframe.

I request the internal review clarify and apply the correct timeframe consistent with the application.

Ground 2 – Inadequate search methodology

The decision indicates searches across multiple systems were conducted using only two keywords: "**Animal Welfare Advisory Committee**" and "**Designated Inspector**". Given the categories sought (briefings, submissions, correspondence, Estimates briefing packs, minutes), this keyword set is not reasonably likely to locate all relevant documents.

I request supplementary searches using reasonable related terms (e.g., "AWAC", "DI", "inspector", "animal welfare inspector", "briefing", "submission", "Estimates", "drafting instructions", "bill", "amendment", "training", "governance", "risk assessment", "SOP").

Ground 3 – Clause 1(2) consideration (edited access / separable factual material)

The decision refused access in full to Documents 1, 1a, 1b and 1c under Schedule 1 clause 1(1) and concluded clause 1(2) does not apply. I request the internal review reconsider whether any parts constitute separable factual/technical material (e.g., factual annexures, background summaries, statistics) capable of edited release without revealing any Executive Body

deliberation.

Please confirm receipt of this internal review request and the due date for the internal review decision.

Kind regards,

Hanyu Liu



On Fri, 27 Feb 2026 at 10:04 am, Minister Jarvis
<Minister.Jarvis@dpc.wa.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

[82-06395](#)

Dear Ms Liu

Please find attached letter and documents from Minister Jarvis with relation to your Freedom of Information application to this office.

Kind regards,



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Office of the **Hon. Jackie Jarvis MLC**
Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries; Forestry; Small
Business; Mid West

+61 8 6552 6200
[Level 12, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street WEST PERTH](#)
[WA 6005 Australia](#)

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