

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Corporate Affairs

ABC Ultimo Centre 700 Harris Street Ultimo NSW 2007

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By email:

Dear

FOI REQUEST - REFERENCE NUMBER 2013-053

I refer to your request for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) in your email of 26 November 2013. You have sought access to the following documents:

"copies of the advice provided to the ABC by Australia's intelligence authorities [as mentioned in a piece by Kate Torney published in The Australian newspaper on 26 November 2013]".

I am authorised by the Managing Director under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests made under that Act. Following is my decision in relation to your request.

Locating and identifying documents

I have taken reasonable steps to identify and locate all relevant documents. My search for these documents involved contacting:

- Office of the Director, News;
- Head of Policy and Staff Development in the News Division; and
- Managing Director's Chief of Staff.

I requested that searches be conducted of all hard and soft copy records for documents which fall within the scope of your request. As a result of those searches, no documents were identified.

Access to documents

Under s24A of the FOI Act, the ABC may refuse a request for access if all reasonable steps have been taken to find a document and the ABC is satisfied that the document does not exist.

In the present case, I consider that all reasonable steps have been taken to locate relevant documents. I am further satisfied that the requested documents do not exist and therefore access to them is refused pursuant to s24A of the FOI Act.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision you can apply for Internal or Information Commissioner (IC) Review. You do not have to apply for Internal Review before seeking IC Review. Information about your review rights is attached.

Yours sincerely

JMande.

Judith Maude Head, Corporate Governance Direct line 02 8333 5316