



Imperial Parliament of Adammia

Act 73

Freedom of Information Act 2024

In accordance with the Supreme Directive of the Empire of Adammia, on the authority of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor and the Ruling Council, this following Act of Parliament is hereby enacted, with the purpose of securing the rights of the Adammic public to access information held by His Majesty's Imperial Government.

Section 1

- a) For the purposes of this Act, a public authority:
 - i. includes:
 - 1. The Office of the Emperor;
 - 2. The Office of State;
 - 3. The Imperial Parliament;
 - 4. The ministries, agencies and publicly-owned companies of the Imperial Government, with the exception of the Adammic Intelligence Service;
 - 5. All courts;
 - 6. All provincial local councils,
 - 7. The Imperial Bank of Adammia, and;
 - 8. Any body acting on behalf of the aforementioned institutions.
 - ii. It does not include political parties or sports associations.

Section 2

- a) Any full citizen may make a request, in writing to the Ministry of Citizenship and Information, for an aspect of information held by a public authority to be communicated to them.
- b) The Ministry of Citizenship and Information shall liaise with relevant public authorities when information is requested, and shall assist those public authorities in complying with this Act. Public authorities are required to co-operate with the Ministry of Citizenship and Information as part of all processes under this Act.
- c) A request for information should be specific and should be submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Information in an accessible format specified by the Ministry.
- d) If the Ministry of Citizenship and Information requires further information in order to identify and locate the requested information, it shall communicate this fact to the requester, and it shall not be required to take any further action until that additional information is supplied by the requester.

- e) Requests for information which are repetitive within a reasonable timeframe, or which are clearly vexatious, may be ignored.
- f) Where no further information from the requester is required, and subsection e) does not apply, the Ministry of Citizenship and Information shall ascertain and communicate to the requester, within a timely manner:
 - i. If the requested information is not held by any public authority, that fact;
 - ii. If the requested information is held, but is exempted under Section 3 of this Act, that fact, along with the reason why it is exempted,
 - 1. unless such an admission would itself be injurious to national security or would otherwise be unlawful, in which case the Ministry may instead communicate that it cannot confirm or deny that the requested information is available;
 - iii. If the requested information is held and is not exempted, the requested information, in a format which is accessible to the requester;
 - 1. Where the requested information is an original physical document, this may instead be a reasonable opportunity for the requester to view the said document in-person, but the requester shall be responsible for all expenses involved in them being present at such a viewing.
- g) For the purposes of subsection f), a timely manner shall be deemed to be no more than three weeks; if the process of complying with subsection f) must take longer than this, then this fact must be communicated to the requester, along with the reasons for the delay, and the Ministry should then continue to endeavour to comply with subsection f) as soon as possible.
- h) Any costs incurred from the process of responding to a request under this Act shall be paid from a single fund controlled by the Ministry of Citizenship and Information, as determined by the Treasury.
 - i. If the cost of responding to a request would be greater than the amount presently available in this fund, the Ministry of Citizenship and Information may request that the requester pay a fee to make up this difference, and it shall not be required to proceed any further with the procedures of this section until such a fee has been paid.

Section 3

- a) Information is exempted under Section 2 f) ii. of this Act if it meets any of the following criteria:
 - i. The information has already been made public, even if the publication requires payment to access;
 - ii. The information is held with a view to it being published in the near future, and it is reasonable that the information should not be withheld until such a time;
 - iii. The information is classified under the Defence Act 2015;
 - iv. The release of the information would otherwise be injurious to Adammia's national security, with particular regard to defence, international relations and the economy;
 - v. The information relates to an individual's personal characteristics, and the release of the information would therefore contravene the General Data Protection Regulation Compliance Act 2018, unless the requester is the sole subject of that information;
 - vi. The information includes details of private conversations that are not required by law to be minuted;

- vii. The information relates to an ongoing investigation under the Investigations Act 2021;
- viii. The release of the information could prejudice an ongoing court case;
- ix. The release of the information would infringe attorney-client privilege under Section 12 of the Judicial Reform Act 2020;
- x. The information would reveal how a person voted in an election or referendum;
- xi. The information was provided to the public authority in confidence by a private individual;
- xii. The release of the information would constitute Contempt of Court or Contempt of Parliament; or
- xiii. The release of the information would otherwise be illegal.
- xiv. The information relates to discussions held by any chamber of the Imperial Parliament when it is sitting in closed business.

Section 4

- a) Where a requester believes that information that a public authority has declined to provide citing Section 2 f) ii. is in fact not lawfully exempted by Section 3, or that a public authority has otherwise failed to comply with the terms of this Act, they may challenge this in a civil court case (judicial review).
- b) As part of such a court case, the judge may order the relevant public authority to provide the requested information to the judge only, so that they can determine whether or not it should be provided to the requester.
 - 1. If such a court case determines that the information should not be provided, it shall be an offence for the judge to subsequently disclose the information, unless it is eventually made public.

PASSED

5 in favour

1 not present

Signed,

Adamus Primus Imperator

6th April 2024

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