

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 20 December 2018 9:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI Request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: AIS Submission Advanced Find View 19-12-2018 3-19-30 PM.XLSX

Hi [REDACTED]

Based on 2017 AIS submissions, 14,252 charities reported that their main activity involved religious activities.

Another 2,527 charities reported that one of their other main activities involved religious activities.

I have attached a spreadsheet with the data – this is for all 2017 AIS submissions, and contains charities with withheld data.

[REDACTED]
Reporting and Red Tape Reduction Manager
Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission
T [REDACTED] | W www.acnc.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. I pay my respect to them and their cultures, and elders past and present.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 December 2018 12:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed yesterday, we have a received an FOI request in the following terms:

“I request the following Government Information:

- a) Documents relating to the number of registered Religions in Australia as at 1 December 2018; and
- b) Documents relating to the number of registered Religious Orders (i.e. an order belonging to a "parent" Religion as identified above in a) but that is registered separately with ACNC) in Australia as at 1 December 2018; and
- c) Documents relating to the number of registered Religiously Affiliated Organisations in Australia as at 1 December 2018; and
- d) Documents relating to the tax exemption status of each of the separately registered entities identified in points a) through c) above.

To assist the ACNC with processing my request for Government Information, I am primarily interested in aggregate statistics for each of my queries, not a list of separate entities. I note that s17 of the FOI Act is particularly relevant to the processing of my request.”

As I mentioned, it appears we are unable to contact the applicant at present to clarify the scope of the request, but we consider it reasonable to interpret parts b) and c) of the request to include documents which contain statistics about charities:

- registered with advancing religion subtype; and
- that have reported that they undertake religious activities in their most recent AIS.

I’ve spoken to [REDACTED] about the subtypes documents – I am hoping you may be able to assist in providing any documents which detail the number of charities which list religious activities as their main activity, in the most recent AIS, and (if it can be reasonably easily determined from existing data) also the number which list religious activities as an activity undertaken?

As mentioned, it would be great if you are able to provide any documents by the **end of this week**, but let me know if this is not going to be possible.

Happy to have a chat if you like.

Thanks for your help!

[REDACTED]
Officer | Legal & Policy | Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission
T [REDACTED] | F 1300 232 569 | E [REDACTED] | W www.acnc.gov.au

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