

Mail OSCAR

From: Internet Mailbox Right to Information <rti@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 27 August 2019 11:45
To: Mail OSCAR
Subject: RE: RTI application from OSCAR - strategic projects

Dear Greg

Thank you for your email regarding the estimate for your narrowed application.

I indicated in the notices that I have calculated time "*Based on the time already spent*", plus "*an estimate of the further time required*".

The time already spent is the same in the original notice and the second notice, which is 4 hours.

With respect to an estimate of further time required, here is a side-by-side comparison of the different estimates I sent:

Activity	Time spent (same for both notices)	Original estimate of further time	Second estimate of further time for narrowed scope	% of original
Initial processing	0.5 hours			
Searching for and retrieving documents	0.5 hours			
Preliminary review of documents	2 hours			
Preparing the estimate and this notice	0.5 hours			
Further review of the documents		5 hours	0.5 hours	10%
Consultation with third parties, such as entities involved in the airport, CBD or submarine cable Palisade Investment Partners Ltd (including time needed to identify the extent of information within the reports about which a third party would need to be consulted)		3 hours	1 hour	33%
Internal consultation with council officers familiar with the matters in order to consider issues that may amount to a ground for refusal	0.5 hours	4 hours	1 hour	25%
Research of previous decisions and case law		2 hours	1 hour	50%
Drafting possible decision notices to third parties that are contrary to their views or objections		4 hours	1 hour	25%
Finalising decision notice and copy of documents for release		3 hours	1 hour	33%
TOTALS	4 hours	21 hours	5.5 hours	26%

Please note that the meaning of *processing charge* will include all of the time already spent, even where it was spent on documents that are not relevant to the narrowed scope. I apologise if I have previously given a different impression.

As you can see in the table above, the estimate of further time for internal consultation is not the same, but it is 25% of the original estimate.

With regard to the last line item for the decision notice, there will still be one decision notice regardless of the volume of material in scope. As you have indicated, the relationship between time and the quantity of pages will not be linear. Requesting a larger volume of material will generally take less total time per page on average, but narrowing the scope will still reduce the overall time and charges.

I trust this will address your queries, but please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss.

Kind regards

Victor Catchpoole | Right to Information Officer

Corporate Governance Branch | Office of Mayor and CEO
Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Phone: 07 5420 8819

Email: victor.catchpoole@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Mail: Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560

Website: www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

From: Mail OSCAR [<mailto:mail@oscar.org.au>]
Sent: Monday, 26 August 2019 9:20 AM
To: Internet Mailbox Right to Information <rti@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: RTI application from OSCAR - strategic projects

Good morning Victor

We discussed this communication at our General Meeting last week and members were concerned that the amended charges were so high given the extent of our more narrow request. As a result I was asked to contact you to seek further clarification.

While I understand there is not a direct relationship between the length of the document/s sought and the time and therefore the cost of pursuing a RTI application we would appreciate an explanation of why access to a 33 page document (approximately 11% of the total pages originally sought) is estimated to cost us approximately 38% of the original estimate.

We also question why the time allocated to the first 4 line items in your cost breakdown table is the same for the initial request and the narrowed request.

It also seems odd that the internal consultation with council officers would be the same for one document in our revised request and for the four documents originally sought.

We would also appreciate an explanation of how the quantum of the last line item on your cost breakdown is a third of the original time estimate for this item given the number of pages being sought.

Best wishes ... Greg

Greg Smith
President, OSCAR
(Organisation Sunshine Coast Association of Residents)

T: 0417 577 881
E: president@oscar.org.au
W: <https://www.oscar.org.au/>



From: Victor Catchpoole [<mailto:Victor.Catchpoole@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 1 August 2019 11:56
To: Mail OSCAR <mail@oscar.org.au>
Subject: RE: RTI application from OSCAR - strategic projects

Dear Greg

Thank you for your email.

I am now providing the second charges estimate notice. Please find a copy **attached**.

Kind regards
Victor Catchpoole | Right to Information Officer
Corporate Governance Branch | Office of Mayor and CEO
Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Phone: 07 5420 8819
Email: victor.catchpoole@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
Mail: Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560
Website: www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

From: Mail OSCAR [<mailto:mail@oscar.org.au>]
Sent: Saturday, 27 July 2019 4:56 PM
To: Internet Mailbox Right to Information <rti@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Internet Mailbox Sunshine Coast Regional Council <srcmail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: RTI application from OSCAR - strategic projects
Importance: High

Dear Victor

Based on the following advice contained in your correspondence of 2 July 2019:

Narrow the terms of your application

If you wish to discuss whether you could alter your application in a way that might reduce the time required to process it and/or any charges, please contact us. If you do amend your application so that the processing charges are reduced to 5 hours or less, the processing charges will be waived.

On receipt of your written advice as to the narrowed terms of your application, a new charges estimate notice will be sent to you.

OSCAR would like to narrow the terms of our application to include only the following item:

2. Sunshine Coast Airport – Agreement Performance Update (Special Meeting 28 February 2019 – Item 5.3)	35 pages
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This refinement of our application is based on the unfortunate financial reality that we cannot afford to pursue our full application despite our belief that the requested documents should never have been confidential and are likely to contain information that the ratepayers of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council should have access to.

Accordingly, I would be grateful if you could provide a new charges estimate notice based on our refined request.

Best wishes ... Greg

Greg Smith
President, OSCAR
(Organisation Sunshine Coast Association of Residents)

T: 0417 577 881
E: president@oscar.org.au
W: <https://www.oscar.org.au/>



Sent: 27 July 2019

From: Internet Mailbox Right to Information [<mailto:rti@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Tuesday, 2 July 2019 12:04

To: mail@oscar.org.au

Subject: RE: RTI application from OSCAR - strategic projects

Dear Greg

I am now providing the charges estimate notice for your application. Please find a copy **attached**. I will post the original.

Kind regards

Victor Catchpoole | Right to Information Officer

Corporate Governance Branch | Office of Mayor and CEO
Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Phone: 07 5420 8819

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