

4 May 2023

Mr Robert Hogan
3 McLachlan Crescent
WEETANGERA ACT 2614

Issued by email only

Dear Mr Hogan

Right to Information Application relating to the University of Tasmania

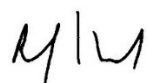
I refer to your email of 20 April 2023, seeking copies of certain records held under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI Act), in relation to audit work performed at the University of Tasmania (UTas).

The Auditor-General is responsible for providing an independent view of the financial and operational performance of State entities, including UTas, in accordance with the provisions of the *Audit Act 2008* (Audit Act). The ability of Auditor-General to provide impartial and independent scrutiny of government practices relies on frank and open communication between the Auditor-General and State entities. That can only be achieved in an environment where there is no threat or fear of disclosure.

In conducting our audit work, my officers take active measures to ensure confidentiality throughout the audit process. Audit engagement, planning, investigation, testing and reporting are all conducted and communicated with State Entities in strict confidence.

I note the RTI Act does not apply to Auditor-General (section 6k) unless the request relates to the administration of the Tasmanian Audit Office. In addition, the confidentiality provisions of section 46 of the Audit Act prevent us from communicating matters that come to our attention during the course of an audit, other than to specified persons. For these reasons, I am unable to provide the information you seek regarding UTas outlined in the attachment to your request, as it relates to audit work performed. In consideration of this outcome, no fee has been charged.

Yours sincerely



Rod Whitehead
Auditor-General