

Freedom of Information Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

Fact sheet

What is the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT)?

VCAT deals with a range of disputes including appeals against decisions made in freedom of information matters.

When can I contact VCAT?

You are eligible to contact VCAT in the following circumstances:

- When the department has not provided you with a notice of decision within the statutory timeframe stipulated within the Freedom of Information Act 1982. This is known as a 'deemed refusal'. In this instance you may lodge a VCAT application immediately after the prescribed time period has elapsed (that is, 45 days in relation to a request for access to documents, and 30 days in relation to a request for the amendment of personal records).
- If you applied to the Freedom of Information Commissioner (the Commissioner) for review and are not satisfied with the Commissioner's decision. Applications to VCAT must be made within 60 days of receipt of the Commissioner's decision.
- If you object to the department releasing personal information about you to an applicant. Applications to VCAT must be made within 60 days of you receiving notice that the department has decided it is reasonable to release this personal information.
- If you object to the department releasing commercial information provided by you to the department.

If you think that you have grounds for an appeal, contact VCAT in the first instance for advice as to how to proceed.

How do I contact VCAT?

The main office of VCAT is located at:

55 King Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Phone: (03) 9628 9755
Fax: (03) 9628 9788
Email: vcat@vcat.vic.gov.au

Application forms and information about reviews are also available from the VCAT website: www.vcat.vic.gov.au

To receive this publication in an accessible format phone (03) 9096 8449, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email foi@dhhs.vic.gov.au

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