

File No.: 04-1000-20-2021-196

May 25, 2021

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

RE: Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")

I am responding to your request of April 8, 2021 under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for:

All records relating to the city's ethical purchasing policy, adopted in 2005 and brought under consolidated management in 2010. In particular, if any vendor has been dropped from doing business with the city due to labour rights abuses in their factories, and, absent that, how often, if ever, the city has contacted a supplier about labour standards compliance and worked with the supplier to improve its labour standards.

We have completed the search for responsive records for this request and no responsive records have been located. Please see timeline below.

Timeline

On **May 3, 2021** our office sent you a clarification letter regarding your request.

Our office contacted the Director, Supply Chain Management and Chief Procurement Officer to discuss the records collection regarding your request. The City would like to bring to your attention that your request as worded will result in an extremely significant fee estimate because the records will need to be manually searched and reviewed for relevancy. There is a high likelihood there will be no responsive records relating to the City contacting a supplier about labour standards compliance. The City is compliant with the Ethical Purchasing policy when doing business with third party vendors, the link to the website located here: <https://vancouver.ca/doing-business/ethical-purchasing-policy.aspx>

On **May 3, 2021** our office received a response from you requesting the fee estimate which was sent to you on **May 10, 2021**. On the same day we received your request for a fee waiver.

Our office has since reviewed the request and have followed up with the Director, Supply Chain Management and Chief Procurement Officer to confirm there are no responsive records. The Ethical Purchasing policy and public procurement procedures are designed to ensure a due diligence process is followed when selecting suppliers and vendors who are in compliance which is verified by signing a code of conduct, performing a robust evaluation process and conducting reference checks before initiating a contract with a supplier. There have been no investigations since the policy has been put into place and therefore no responsive records relating to your request.

This file is now considered closed.

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2021-196); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

[Signature on file]

Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA
Director, Access to Information & Privacy

Barbara.vanfraassen@vancouver.ca
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

*If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Or you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604.871.6584.

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