

**Submission by Victims of Financial Fraud (VOFF Inc) to The Royal Commission into
Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry**

Regarding: not treated honestly and fairly.

March 6th 2018

To the Honourable Kenneth Madison Hayne AC QC,

The enclosed correspondence between the Information Commissioner and the Victims of Financial Fraud in relation to a Freedom of Information request is provided as a submission, to illustrate unfair treatment and what consumers are up against. It is unfair that legislation used to block an FOI request has disingenuous remarks aimed at the applicant.

VOFF accept that the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Information Commissioner relied on the FOI Act correctly. What VOFF strongly disagree with is the way our review was finalized by the IC *under s 54W(a)(i) of the FOI Act*. VOFF question ASIC's integrity, particularly in light to the 2016 'perceptions of corruption in Australian government was put at 13th globally for perceived openness, the country's equal lowest ranking in 20-year history of Transparency International index.'¹ In 2017 Australia fell to 15th place.²

Section 54W(a)(i) of the FOI Act,

(a) the IC is satisfied of any of the following:

(i) the IC review application is frivolous, vexatious, misconceived, lacking in substance or not made in good faith;

It is evident by the name on the FOI application "Victims of Financial Fraud" that the applicant suffered harm and are victims of the Trio fraud. Suggesting VOFF's FOI request fits the description of s 54(a)(1) is inappropriate and highly offensive to the victims of a serious crime.

Thank you
Mr J Telford
Secretary VOFF Inc.

¹ <http://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/jan/27/perceptions-of-corruption-in-australian-government-and-public-sector-increase>

² Corruption Perceptions Index 2017 21 February 2018
https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017