



## URGENT UPDATE

# New Application Fee Payable From 1 July 2004

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On 1 July 2004 the *Monetary Units Act 2004* (“MUA”) will commence operation.

It has a number of important effects the most immediate one of which will be that any request for access under section 17 of the Victorian FOI Act must **from 1 July 2004 be accompanied by an application fee of \$20.50.**

The amendment substituted the words “2 fee units” for the figure “\$20” in section 17(2A) in the FOI Act. The MUA then goes on to provide that a fee unit will from 1 July 2004 be \$10 plus an annual percentage rate set by the Treasurer (ie 2.25%). Given that the MUA allows for rounding to the nearest 10 cents, the application fee that must accompany an FOI request is \$20.50.

Please also note that the amount **will be increased from 1 July every year** by an amount which will be publicly notified by the Treasurer before 1 June each year. You should ensure the public is aware of the change in the application fee amounts.

Should you require any further information about the effect of the MUA on FOI application fees, please do not hesitate to contact Mick Batskos:

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