

END “SECURITY BY OBSCURITY”

A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BATTLE



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myGov Code Generator

Services Australia

2.8★
4K reviews

Government ⓘ

1M+
Downloads

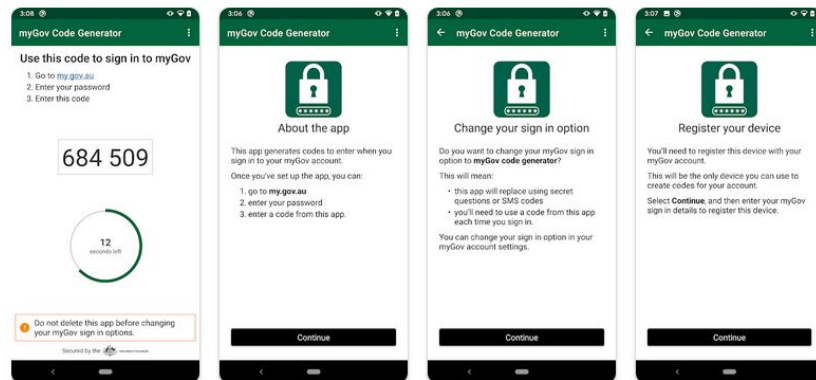
3+
Rated for 3+ ⓘ

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App support ▾

More by Services Australia →

 myGov
Services Australia
3.4★

 Express Plus Centrelink
Services Australia
3.7★

 Express Plus Child Support

VERY BASIC APP

1. enrol (OAuth 2.0, get secret)
2. generate code (TOTP)

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IS IT SECURE? IS IT SPYWARE?

ONLY VIA APP STORE?

MAKE A TRANSLATION?

PORT TO OTHER PLATFORMS?

U

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myGov Code Generator app: source code and technical documentation

[Fraser Tweedale](#) made this Freedom of Information request to [Services Australia](#)

Actions

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This request has been **closed to new correspondence**. [Contact us](#) if you think it should be reopened.



The request was **refused** by [Services Australia](#).

Fraser Tweedale July 05, 2021

✓ **Delivered**

Dear Services Australia,

I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 1982:

- (1). Source code of the myGov Code Generator iOS and Android apps, including build scripts, manifests, software license terms, and media assets (icons, audio files, etc).
- (2). Technical documentation describing the operation of the myGov Code Generator app, such as design documents, architecture diagrams, API documentation, security assessments, technical presentation slides, and similar documents.

If it assists in the expeditious processing of my request, source code may be delivered as a

WANT TO KNOW SOMETHING?

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ORIGINAL REQUEST

ACCESS REFUSAL DECISION

s 47E(d) disclosure would [be expected to] have a substantial adverse effect on operations of the agency and release is contrary to the public interest

a.k.a “SECURITY BY OBSCURITY”

INTERNAL REVIEW

ACCESS REFUSAL DECISION
AFFIRMED

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OAIC REVIEW

JANUARY 2022: applied for review

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OAIC REVIEW

JUNE 2025 (!): s 54W(b) decision
not to review a.k.a. “this is too
technical for us”

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ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRIBUNAL

Now it starts costing money



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NATIONAL SECURITY?

**s 33(a)(i): information affecting
national security**

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NATIONAL SECURITY?

proceeding moved to the
**INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY
JURISDICTIONAL AREA**

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DO I HAVE A CHANCE?

Strong arguments, with evidence,
for every part of the respondent's
case

Cyber specialist lawyers: WiseLaw

Expert witnesses: Vanessa Teague

TIMELINE

April: SA's submissions + evidence

June: my submissions + evidence

Q3: substantive hearing

CROWDFUNDING

Initial Pozible campaign: \$20,000



Ongoing Chuffed campaign

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IN THE MEDIA

Crux, Sizzle, Weekly Cybers

Crikey.

ABC RN Sunday Extra

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INFO AND UPDATES

LINK TO CROWDFUNDING

PLEASE SHARE WIDELY



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Call For Proposals

Specialist Tracks in focus

Cybersecurity

PyCon au 2026 pycon.org.au/cfp