

**INFORMATION MANUAL**  
**PREPARED IN TERMS OF SECTION 51 OF**  
**THE PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT, No. 2 of 2000**  
**(“the ACT”)**

for  
**STENDEN SOUTH AFRICA**

**INCORPORATING MY POND HOTEL**  
**AND**  
**THE ROBERT VEENSTRA ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER**

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## INTRODUCTION

This Manual is published in terms of Section 51 of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000) (“the Act”).

The Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000 (“the Act”) gives effect to the right access to information in records held by public or private bodies that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights as enshrined in the Bill of Rights forming part of The Constitution of The Republic of South Africa, 1996 (“the Constitution”).

The Act sets out the requisite procedural issues attached to such request, the requirements with which such a request must comply as well as the grounds for refusal of such request.

The manual informs requesters of the procedural and other requirements with which a request must comply in terms of the Act.

The Act recognizes that the right to access of information cannot be unlimited and should be subject to justifiable limitations, including, but not limited to:

- Limitations aimed at reasonable protection of privacy.
- Commercial confidentiality.
- Effective, efficient, and good governance.

The right to access to information must also be balanced against any other rights contained in the Constitution.

Stenden South Africa is a private company, incorporated according to the laws of the Republic of South Africa, and is a wholly owned by NHL Stenden University, The Netherlands.

Stenden South Africa is registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institute, Registration number: 2002/009834/10 and the Higher Education Act, 1997 Registration number: 2002/HE10/001

It is a provider of quality private education offering two full time degree programmes in Port Alfred South Africa and several Minors in Port Alfred South Africa.

***Stenden South Africa comprises My Pond Hotel and the Robert Veenstra Entrepreneurship Center (herein after called Stenden South Africa) as follows:***

### *The Tertiary division*

Public information relating to our programmes of which can be viewed and accessed on the website below. [www.stenden.ac.za](http://www.stenden.ac.za)

### *The MyPond Hotel*

Public information relating to our Real-World Learning can be accessed on the website [www.mypondhotel.com](http://www.mypondhotel.com)

### *The Robert Veenstra Entrepreneurship Center*

Public information relating to our short courses offered at the center can be accessed on our website [www.stenden.ac.za](http://www.stenden.ac.za)

Further public information regarding Stenden South Africa can be found on the website below.  
[www.stenden.ac.za](http://www.stenden.ac.za)

## **CONTACT DETAILS AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

All requests for information in terms of the Act must be in writing and addressed to the Information officer of Stenden South Africa as set out below: -

Company name: Stenden South Africa  
Registered address: 1 Grand Street Port Alfred 6170  
Postal address: P.O Box 2821 Port Alfred 6170  
Telephone number: +27(0) 46 6042200  
Email: [adminsa@nhlstenden.com](mailto:adminsa@nhlstenden.com)  
Website: [www.stenden.ac.za](http://www.stenden.ac.za)

### **Information Officer**

Dr Wouter Hensens, Executive Dean  
[Wouter.hensens@nhlstenden.com](mailto:Wouter.hensens@nhlstenden.com)

### **Deputy Information Officer**

Mrs. Ronel Bartlett, Student Affairs Manager  
[Ronel.bartlett@nhlstenden.com](mailto:Ronel.bartlett@nhlstenden.com)

## **GUIDELINES IN TERMS OF SECTION 10 ON HOW TO USE THE ACT**

A guide on how to use the Act to obtain information is available in various languages from the South African Human Rights Commission.

Please direct queries to them at:

Postal Address: Private Bag X2700 Houghton 2041  
Telephone number: + 27 11 877 3600  
Facsimile number: + 27 11 877 3750  
Email: [PAIA@sahrc.co.za](mailto:PAIA@sahrc.co.za)  
Website: [www.sahrc.org.za](http://www.sahrc.org.za)

## **AVAILABILITY OF THIS MANUAL**

A copy of this manual is available by sending a request for a copy to the Information Officer by email. The manual may also be obtained from the South African Human Rights Commission ("SAHRC"). The manual appears on our website and will be updated periodically.

## **RECORDS AVAILABLE IN TERMS OF OTHER LEGISLATION**

Records available in terms of other legislation, as amended, are as follows:

- Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995;
- Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998;
- Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997;

- Compensation of Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act 130 of 1993;
- Companies Act 71 of 2008;
- Unemployment Insurance Act 63 of 2001;
- Value Added Tax Act 89 of 1991;
- Income Tax Act 58 of 1962;
- Skills Development Act 9 of 1999;
- South African Schools Act 84 of 1996;
- Further Education and Training Colleges Act 16 of 2006;
- Higher Education Act 101 of 1997.

## ACCESS TO RECORDS

### RECORDS THAT MAY BE REQUESTED

The following records of Stenden South Africa may be available upon request:

- Companies Act records;
- Financial records;
- Tax records;
- Asset records;
- Income and other tax records;
- Employment records;
- Employment policies;
- Information technology records;
- Procurement records;
- Other party and student records.
- Marketing records
- Internal policies and procedures
- Operational records

*Note that recording a category or subject matter in this manual does not imply that a request for access to such records would be honoured. All requests for access will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis on their own merits, Stenden South Africa reserves the right to decline to grant access to records in accordance with the provisions of the Act.*

Customer information includes the following:

- Any records a customer has provided to Stenden South Africa.
- Customer needs assessments.
- Personal records of customers and students.
- Credit information and other research conducted in respect of customers.
- Any records a third party has provided to Stenden South Africa.
- Confidential, privileged, contractual and quasi legal records of customers.
- Customer evaluation records.
- Records generated by or within Stenden South Africa pertaining to customers, including transaction records.

## REQUEST PROCEDURES

Requests for access to records held by Stenden South Africa must be made on the request form that is available from the SAHRC website ([www.sahrc.org.za](http://www.sahrc.org.za)) or the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development ([www.joj.gov.za](http://www.joj.gov.za)) (under “regulations”). Note that requests need to be accompanied by payment but will only be processed upon payment of the prescribed fees. Requests for access to records must be made to our Information Officer at the address, or email address provided below.

The requester must provide sufficient detail on the request form to enable the Information Officer to identify the record and the requester. The requester should also indicate which form of access is required and indicate if he or she wishes to be informed in any other manner and state the necessary particulars to be so informed.

The requester must identify the right that he or she is seeking to exercise or protect and provide an explanation of why the requested record is required for the exercise or protection of that right. If a request is made on behalf of a person, the requester must then submit proof of the capacity in which the requester is making the request to the satisfaction of the Information officer of Stenden South Africa .

The standard form that must be used for making of requests is attached as Annexure A. Not using this form could cause your request to be refused (if you do not provide sufficient information or otherwise) or delayed.

Kindly note that all requests to Stenden South Africa will be evaluated and considered in accordance with the Act. Publication of this manual and describing the categories and subject matter of information held by Stenden South Africa does not give rise to any rights (in contract or otherwise) to access such information or records except in terms of the Act.

## FEES

The Act provides for 2 kinds of fees – request fees - non-refundable administration fees paid by all requesters (except personal requesters); access fee – paid by all requesters only when access is granted. The fee is intended to reimburse Stenden South Africa for the costs involved in searching for a record and preparing it for delivery to the requester.

Stenden South Africa may withhold the record until the request fee and the deposit in terms of section 8hereof (if applicable) have been paid.

A requester who seeks access to a record containing personal information about that requester (“personal requester”) is not required to pay the request fee.

Every other requester, who is not a personal requester, must pay the required request fee as per below.

The fees payable are in Annexure C.

Actual postage is payable when a record must be posted to a requester.

## **DEPOSIT**

In accordance with s54(2) of the Act, Stenden South Africa may require a deposit in cases where searching for a record exceeds 6 hours. The deposit will represent one third of the access fees payable by the requester.

## **GROUND FOR REFUSAL OF ACCESS TO RECORDS OF A PRIVATE BODY**

See Annexure B attached.

## **RIGHT OF APPEAL**

A requester that is dissatisfied with the Information Officer's refusal to grant access to any information may –

Within 30 days of being informed that the request was not granted lodge an internal appeal; or  
Within 30 days of notification of the decision apply to court for relief.

Likewise, a third party dissatisfied with the Information Officer's decision to grant a request may, within 30 days of notification of the decision, apply to court for relief.

## **PRESCRIBED FORMS**

See Annexure A  
Annexure B  
Annexure C

## ANNEXURE A

### FORM C

REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO RECORD OF PRIVATE BODY  
(Section 53(1) of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000  
(Act No. 2 of 2000)

[Regulation 10]

#### A. Particulars of private body

##### **Stenden South Africa**

The Information Officer / Deputy Information Officer: Wouter Hensens / Ronel Bartlett

#### B. Particulars of person requesting access to the record

- (a) The particulars of the person who requests access to the record must be given below.
- (b) The address and/or fax number in the Republic to which the information is to be sent must be given.
- (c) Proof of the capacity in which the request is made, if applicable, must be attached.

Full names and surname:

Identity number:

Postal address:

Fax number:

Telephone number:

E-mail address:

Capacity in which request is made, when made on behalf of another person:

#### C. Particulars of person on whose behalf request is made

This section must be completed *ONLY* if a request for information is made on behalf of another person.

Full names and surname:

Identity number:

#### D. Particulars of record

- (a) Provide full particulars of the record to which access is requested, including the reference number if that is known to you, to enable the record to be located.
- (b) If the provided space is inadequate, please continue on a separate folio and attach it to this form.  
The requester must sign all the additional folios.

Description of record or relevant part of the record:

Reference number, if available:

Any further particulars of record:

**E. Fees**

- |  |
|--|
| <p>(a) A request for access to a record, other <i>than</i> a record containing personal information about yourself, will be processed only after a request fee has been paid.</p> <p>(b) You will be <i>notified of</i> the amount required to be paid as the request fee.</p> <p>(c) The fee payable for access to a record depends <i>on</i> the form <i>in which</i> access is required and the reasonable time <i>required</i> to search for and prepare a record.</p> <p>(d) If you qualify for exemption <i>of</i> the payment <i>of</i> any fee, please state the reason for exemption.</p> |
|--|

Reason for exemption from payment of fees:

<p>If you are prevented by a disability to read, view or listen to the record in the form of access provided for in 1 to 4 hereunder, state your disability and indicate in which form the record is required.</p>
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**F. Form of access to record**

Disability:	Form in which record is required
<p>Mark the appropriate box with an X.</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <p>(a) Compliance with your request in the specified form may depend on the form in which the record is available.</p> <p>(b) Access in the form requested may be refused in certain circumstances. In such a case you will be informed if access will be granted in another form.</p> <p>(c) The fee payable for access for the record, if any, will be determined partly by the form in which access is requested.</p>	

<b>1. If the record is in written or printed form:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	copy of record*	<input type="checkbox"/>	inspection of record
<b>2. If record consists of visual images</b> this includes photographs, slides, video recordings, computer-generated images, sketches, etc)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	view the images	<input type="checkbox"/>	copy of the images"
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	transcription of the images*
<b>3. If record consists of recorded words or information which can be reproduced in sound:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	listen to the soundtrack audio cassette	<input type="checkbox"/>	transcription of soundtrack* written or printed document
<b>4. If record is held on computer or in an electronic or machine-readable form:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	printed copy of record*	<input type="checkbox"/>	printed copy of information derived from the record"
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	copy in computer readable form* (stiffy or compact disc)



## **ANNEXURE B**

### **GROUNDINGS FOR REFUSAL OF ACCESS TO RECORDS OF A PRIVATE BODY**

The information contained in this section is a summary of the grounds upon which a private body is entitled to raise, as grounds for the refusal of access to its records. The information is intended to provide a requester with clarity as to the reasons why a request may be refused by the private body.

#### **A. Section 63: Mandatory protection of privacy of a third party who is a natural person**

The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that body if its disclosure would involve the unreasonable disclosure of personal information about a third party, including a deceased individual.

However, a record may not be refused if it consists of information:

- a) About an individual who has consented in writing to the disclosure of the information;
- b) Already publicly available;
- c) Given to the private body by the individual to whom it relates, and that individual was informed by the private body before it is disclosed that the information belongs to a class of information that may already be publicly available;
- d) About an individual's physical or mental health, or well-being, who is under the care of the requester, and who is under the age of 18 years or incapable of understanding the nature of the request, and further if the disclosure would be in the individual's best interests;
- e) About an individual who is deceased and the requester is the individual's next of kin, or is making the request with the written consent of the individual's next of kin;
- f) About an individual who is or was an official of a private body, and the information relates to the position or functions of the individual.

#### **B. Section 64: Mandatory protection of commercial information of a third party**

- 1) The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that private body if it contains:
  - a) Trade secrets of a third party;
  - b) Financial, commercial, scientific or technical information of a third party, other than trade secrets, where the disclosure thereof would be likely to cause harm to the commercial or financial interests of that third party;
  - c) Information supplied to the third party in confidence, and if disclosed would place the third party at a disadvantage in contractual or other negotiations, or prejudice the third party in commercial competition.

However, a record may not be refused if it consists of information:

- a) About a third party who has already consented in writing, to its disclosure to the requester;

b) About the results of any product or environmental testing or other investigation supplied by the private body or the results of any such testing or investigation carried out on by or on behalf of the private body and its disclosure would reveal a serious public safety or environmental risk.

#### C. Section 65: Mandatory protection of certain confidential information of a third party

The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that body, if its disclosure would constitute an action for breach of a duty of confidence owed to a third party in terms of an agreement.

#### D. Section 66: Mandatory protection of safety of individuals, and protection of property

a) The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that body, if its disclosure could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of an individual.

b) The head of a private body may refuse a request for access to a record of that body if its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or impair:

i) The security of a building, structure, or system, including a computer or communication system; a means of transport or any other property;

The methods, systems, plans or procedures for the protection of an individual in accordance with a witness protection scheme; the safety of the public or part of the public or the security of a building, structure, or system, including a computer or communication system, a means of transport or any other property.

#### E. Section 67: Mandatory protection of records privileged from production in legal Proceedings

The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that body, if the record is privileged from production in legal proceedings unless the person entitled to the privilege has waived such privilege.

#### F. Section 68: Commercial information of a private body

1) The head of a private body may refuse a request for access to a record of that body if the record:

a) Contains trade secrets of the private body;

b) Contains financial, commercial, scientific or technical information, other than trade secrets of the private body, and the disclosure thereof would likely cause harm to the commercial or financial interests of that body;

c) Contains information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to put the private body at a disadvantage in contractual or other negotiations; or prejudice the body in commercial competition;

d) Is a computer programme as defined in the Copyright Act, No. 98 of 1978, which is owned by the private body, unless it is required to give access to a record in terms of PAIA.

However, a record may not be refused if it consists of information:

About the results of any product or environmental testing or investigation (excluding the results of preliminary testing or investigations conducted for developing methods of testing), carried out by or for the public body, and the disclosure thereof would reveal a serious public safety or environmental risk.

**G. Section 69: Mandatory protection of research information of a third party, and protection of research information of a private body**

1) The head of a private body must refuse a request for access to a record of that body, if the record contains information about research being carried out or to be carried out, by or on behalf of a third party, and if this were to be disclosed, it would be likely to:

- a) Expose the third party, or
- b) the person carrying out the research or will be carrying out the research on behalf of the third party, or
- c) the subject matter of

the research, to a serious disadvantage.

2) The head of a private body may refuse a request for access to a record of that body, if the record contains information about research being carried out or about to be carried out, by or on behalf of the private body, and if this were to be disclosed, it would likely to:

Expose

- a) the private body or
- b) the person carrying out the research or will be carrying out the research on behalf of the private body, or
- c) the subject matter of

the research to a serious disadvantage.

**H. Section 70: Mandatory disclosure in the public interest**

a) Despite the above listed grounds for refusal, the head of a private body must grant a request for access to a record of that body if, the disclosure thereof would reveal evidence of:

- i) A substantial contravention of, or failure to comply with the law; or
- ii) An imminent and serious public safety or environmental risk; and

b) the public interest in the disclosure of the record, outweighs the harm contemplated under the ground for refusal.

Approved by Wouter Hensens Information Officer on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021.

**Annexure C Fees (ZAR)**

For every photocopy of an A4 page or part thereof	1.10
For every printed copy of an A4 page or part thereof held on a computer or in electronic or machine-readable form	0.75
For a copy in a computer readable form on Stiffy disc	7.50
For a copy in a computer readable form on Compact disc	70.00
For transcription of visual images, for an A4 page or part thereof	40.00
For a copy of visual images	60.00
For a transcription of an audio record, for an A4 page or part thereof	20.00
For a copy of an audio record	30.00
The request fee payable by a requester, other than a personal requester	50
The access fees payable by a requester referred to in regulation 11.(3) are as follows: to search and prepare a record for disclosure, for each hour of part thereof reasonably required for such search and preparation	30
Postage of a record to the Requester	9.75
Courier of a record to the Requester	99.00