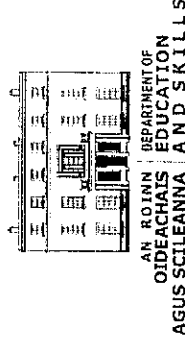


An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Bóthar Phort Laoise
An Tulach Mhór
Co. Uíbh Fhailí
R35 Y2N5



Department of Education and Skills
Portlaoise Road
Tullamore
Co. Offaly
R35 Y2N5

21st September 2016

[REDACTED]

Re: FOI request [2016/327]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this body:

The amount spent on vermin control in schools in each of the past five years. To be clear, this would include a breakdown of costs for schools in the primary/secondary sector, as well as the type of vermin discovered in each school.

I, Rosemary Grogan have now made a final decision to refuse your request on 21st September 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. An explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is denied, and
2. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these two parts in turn.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions. I have taken the decision to deny access to the records requested under section 15(1) (a) of the act where

(a) *“the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken”*

There are no records in relation to applications approved or refused by the School Building Unit regarding your request.

3. Right of appeal

You may appeal this decision. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Education and Skills, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. Your correspondence should include a fee of €30 (€10 for medical card holders) for processing the appeal. Payment should be made by way of personal cheque or postal money order made payable to the accountant in the Department of Education and Skills. Please note the Department of Education and Skills no longer accept cheque payments from business users. For further information regarding payment methods for business users, please email foi@education.gov.ie

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks from the date of this notification, where a day is defined as a working day excluding, the weekend and public holidays. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this body.

Publication

All non-personal FOI requests will be recorded on an FOI disclosure log which will be published on the Department of Education and Skills website in due course.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact me by telephone at (057) 9325389.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Grogan
Acting Higher Executive Officer
School Building Unit
Tullamore
Co Offaly