

17<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Re: FOI request refusing request FOI 2016/345**

Dear [redacted]

I refer to your request dated 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, which was received on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 for records held by the Department of Education and Skills. Your request sought:

"Submissions from interest groups and members of the public relating the Minister for Education's strategy statement launched on September 15th."

I, Sarah Miley, Assistant Principal Officer, have now made a final decision to refuse your request on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

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

1. a schedule of all of the records covered by your request;
2. an explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is denied, and
3. a statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these three parts in turn.

**1. Schedule of records**

A schedule is enclosed with this letter, it shows the documents that the Department of Education and Skills considers relevant to your request. It describes each document and refers to the sections of the FOI Act which apply to prevent release. The schedule also refers you to sections of the detailed explanation given under heading 2 below, which are relevant to the document in question. It also gives you a summary and overview of the decision as a whole.

**2. 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 am refusing your request under Section 15 (1) (d)- Information is in the public domain.

The information you are requesting is available on our website- [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie).

### **3. Rights of appeal**

If you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal it. 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 or by e-mail to [foi@education.gov.ie](mailto:foi@education.gov.ie). Your correspondence should include a fee of €30 for processing the appeal. Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque made payable to Department of Education and Skills. If you wish to make payment by electronic means please the Freedom of Information Unit at 01 889 6400. 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.

### **4. Publication**

All non-personal FOI requests will be recorded on an FOI disclosure log which will be published on this Department's website in due course.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact me at 01 889 2020, [sarah\\_miley@education.gov.ie](mailto:sarah_miley@education.gov.ie)

Yours sincerely,

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Sarah Miley  
Assistant Principal Officer