



[REDACTED]

February 2017

**Re: FOI request 2017/3**

[REDACTED]

I refer to the request for access to information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014. In your request you sought the following:

1. *How many consultants did the Minister for Education and Skills approve to*
  - (a) *enter into contracts with persons, and*
  - (b) *engage consultants or advisors under section 7(7) of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act. The Act states that board may from time to time may enter into contracts with persons and engage consultants or advisors (but must be approved by the Minister).*
2. *Who were they and for what purpose.*

I, Aongus Ó hAonghusa, Assistant Principal Officer, have now made a final decision in relation to your request.

You have sought access to specific information rather than to particular records. The information sought by you is set out in the tabular statement appended to this letter.


**Right of appeal**

You may appeal this decision. In the event that you wish 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, 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](mailto: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.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 01-8892014 or by email at [aongus\\_obaonghusa@education.gov.ie](mailto:aongus_obaonghusa@education.gov.ie).

Yours sincerely,

  
**Aongus Ó hAonghusa**  
**Assistant Principal Officer**  
**Redress Unit**