

Bóthar Phort Laoise  
An Tulach Mhór  
Co. Uíbh Fhailí  
R35 Y2N5

Portlaoise Road  
Tullamore  
Co. Offaly  
R35 Y2N5

24<sup>th</sup> March 2017

[REDACTED]

Re: FOI request 2017/94

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which was received on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 for records held by this Department:

**“To find out the following information in relation to extension at Kiltveevan National School Co Roscommon 2008-2009:**

**Part 1 - The total amount of funding for this development and what works were covered by the funding**

**Part 2 - To get photocopies of invoices detailing where total amount of monies were spent and on what work and did funding given include car parking area, fencing and bridge over the river.”**

I, Noel Coonan Executive Officer have now made a final decision to part grant your request on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

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

1. The information required as per Part 1 of your request above which is being released to you in full
  2. An explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records in Part 2 of your request to which access is denied.
  3. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.
- 1. Access to records regarding total amount of funding and nature of works covered**

In May 2008, the Department offered the Board of Management of Kiltveevan National School an all-in devolved grant of €120,000.00 (inclusive of VAT and fees) to provide a 1 x 80m2 mainstream classroom at the school. I am releasing the approval letter to

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the school setting out these details. Therefore, access to the records in relation to Part 1 of your request is released in full.

## **2. Findings, particular 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 Part 2 of your request in relation to the invoice records and work details requested under the provisions of section 15(1) (a) of the act which states:

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

In this particular case, the project was to provide for a 1 x 80m<sup>2</sup> mainstream classroom only at the school. The Department is not aware of any additional works that may have been carried out at the school during the project. The project was devolved for delivery to the Board of Management of Killeevan National School. A devolved project means that the responsibility for delivering the project, including cost control, rests directly with the Board of Management and all financial records, including invoices, that relate to its delivery, are held by the school. There is no requirement for the Department to hold such records.

As the records outlined in Part 2 of your request do not exist within the Department, Part 2 of your request is refused under the provisions of section 15(1)(a).

### **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) (delete as applicable) 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](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.

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### **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 have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 057 9324446.

Yours sincerely,

Noel Coonan  
Devolved Projects Section