



[REDACTED]

15th of June 2017

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Re: FOI request 2017/209

[REDACTED]

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

1. *"The number of incidents of computer based fraud attacks in each of the past five years. I am seeking details as to the nature of each attack in each of the past five years."*
2. *"All details concerning any monies stolen by cyber criminals from bank accounts connected with the Department, arising from each attack in each of the past five years."*
3. *"All details concerning any sensitive data stolen arising from each cyber attack in each of the past five years. This would include details in relation to the type of data stolen in each case, and whether the data was subsequently recovered."*

I, Mr. Donagh Kelly, Assistant Principal Officer have now made a final decision to refuse your request on the 15th of June 2017.

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 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.

Section 15. (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 states that a head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken.

From a search of the Department's records there are:

- i. no records of computer based fraud attacks in each of the past five years;
- ii. no records of any monies stolen by cyber criminals from bank accounts connected with the Department in each of the past five years
and
- iii. no records of any sensitive data stolen by cyber-attack in each of the past five years.

2. 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

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 01 889 2229.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Donagh Kelly
Assistant Principal Officer