

[REDACTED]

19th April, 2019.

Ref: FOI/2018/125

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

Your Request:

Copies of the any entry and/or signature in the Visitor's Book in Marlborough Street referring to the attendance in the Department of the Chairperson of the Commissioners of State Examinations Commission at that time, Mr Richard (Dick) Langford in the period 20 June 2010 to 23 July 2010 inclusive. The copies of the records to include the person/persons he was scheduled to meet.

I, Jacinta Daly have now made a final decision to refuse your request on 19th April, 2018.

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 three parts in turn.

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

I am sorry to inform you that I cannot locate the records and that I must, therefore, refuse your request. As is explained below, this decision is made under section 15(1)(a) of the Act.

Section 15(1)(a) of the Act states that an FOI request may be refused if:

'the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken'

I have no record of the visitor books prior to 11th June, 2012. The relevant year which you request has been destroyed via the Department's confidential waste system.

I did not have a certificate of destruction as at the time I was unaware that these books should have been retained.

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 D01 RC96 or email foi@education.gov.ie

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 01 889 2089.

Yours sincerely,

Jacinta Daly
Corporate Services