29/04/2022

Thomas Kerin

**Re: FOI request FOI-0158-2022**

Dear Thomas,

I refer to your request made under the Freedom of Information Act, 2014 where you sought:

* *List of attendees, and agenda of the National Oversight Committee for the Drugs Strategy meeting attended by Frank Feighan and/or department officials on or about 4th of March\* 2022, and any briefing materials for this meeting*
* *List of dates of National Oversight Committee meetings since 2019, and agenda*

I, as the Deciding Officer, have now made a final decision to grant your request in relation to documents held by the Department which fall under the scope of this request, namely:

- the agendas of the National Oversight Committee meetings since 2019, and

- briefing documents circulated for the meeting on the 4th of March 2022.

In relation to other documents requested, please note the following:

* The list of attendees of the National Oversight Committee Meeting is recorded within the minutes, so it will be available once the minutes of this meeting are approved;
* The Department does not have a specific record of the list of dates of the National Committee meetings; however, this information can be obtained from the agendas.

**Rights of appeal**

The Act requires that you be advised of your Rights of Review, and I would refer you to the attached information sheet.

**Publication**

All non-personal FOI requests will be recorded on an FOI disclosure log which will be published on the Department of Health website in due course.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me by email at dpu@health.gov.ie

Yours sincerely,

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Karolina Farrell

Drugs Policy and Social Inclusion Unit

**Freedom of Information Act, 2014**

**Summary of Review Rights under the Act**

**INTERNAL REVIEW**

A final decision on your request will normally be sent to you within four weeks of receipt of request. Where it is necessary to seek deposits, to consult third parties or to refine the scope of a request, this deadline is extended appropriately.

You are entitled to an internal review on your request where the Department:

* Refuses your FOI request
* Excludes all or part of particular records
* Gives access in a form other than that which you requested
* Charges a fee or a deposit
* Does not issue a decision within the legislative timeframe
* Refuses an application requesting reasons for ‘acts of the body’
* Refuses to amend a record containing personal information about you.

You can appeal in writing (or by email to: [**foi@health.gov.**ie](mailto:foi@health.gov.ie)) to the FOI Officer at the address below. You should:

* State the details of your initial request
* State what decision or action you wish to have reviewed
* State the reasons why you believe our response has been inadequate, and
* Include an upfront fee of €30 to be paid by **ELECTRONIC TRANSFER ONLY**. Bank details are attached.

**The review is a full and new consideration of the matter carried out in accordance with the Departments internal review procedures.**

You would normally have 4 weeks, from the due date of a decision OR from the date of receipt of a decision, to make such an appeal. The appeal may be made later in appropriate circumstances.

\*There is no fee for review applications concerning only personal information relating to oneself or in relation to decisions to impose a fee. A reduced fee of **€10** applies if the person bringing the application is a medical card holder or a dependant of a medical card holder.

**REVIEW BY THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**

If, following an internal review, you are not satisfied with the Departments response; you may appeal in writing to the Information Commissioner at 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 W773.

A fee of €50 must accompany most applications for a review by the Information Commissioner. A reduced fee of €15 applies if you are covered by a medical card or in relation to a review concerning certain third-party information. Again, there is no fee for review applications concerning only personal information relating to oneself or in relation to decisions to impose fees or deposits.

**Freedom of Information Unit, 7th Floor, Miesian Plaza, D02 XW14**

**Account Details**

**Account Name**: Department of Health – Lodgement EFT – Public Bank Account

**Bank:**  Danske Bank

**Branch:** 3 Harbormaster Place, IFSC, D01 K8F1

**IBAN:** IE56DABA95159910002666

**BIC No:** DABAIE2D

**Account No:** 10002666

**Sort Code:** 95-15-99

Remittances should be sent to [**accountseft@health.gov.ie**](mailto:accountseft@health.gov.ie)

An email should also be sent to FOI Unit ([**foi@health.gov.ie**](mailto:foi@health.gov.ie)**)**, advising of payment in order to avoid any delays in the processing of your request.

**NB: Please use the FOI reference, as advised to you in the acknowledgement, when making lodgements.**