

06/12/2005

Mr Tom Felle

Ireland

FOI/0113/2005

Dear Mr Felle,

I refer to the request you have made under the Freedom of Information Act concerning the expenditure on taxis and hackneys by this Department during the period 1 November 2004 to 1 November 2005. The total expenditure incurred by the Department for this service was €25,079.30.

I wish to advise you that, if for any reason you are not satisfied with the outcome of your request, you are entitled to seek a review of the case by appealing the decision to this Department's FOI Internal Review Board. To appeal, you need to write to Mr John Wynne, FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, Co Dublin. You must make your appeal within 4 weeks of the date of this letter, but 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 Department.

Please note that an application fee for an appeal is currently €75.00 and a reduced fee of €25.00 applies if you are covered by a Medical Card.

If claiming a reduced application fee, the request must also be accompanied by

- The Medical Card registration number
- The name of the issuing Health Board
- Your consent to the verification of these details with that Health Board.

Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money postal order, or personal cheque made payable to "The Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources".

On receipt of the fee, an acknowledgement letter will be sent to you outlining details of when you can expect a decision on your appeal, and the contact details of the person handling the appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Dermot McGeady
Corporate Services Division

16/11/2005

Mr Tom Felle

Ireland

FOI/0113/2005

Dear Mr Felle,

I refer to the Freedom of Information request received in this office on 16/11/2005 along with the associated fee. Please note that your request has been assigned to different areas of the Department for response. In this regard point 3 will be processed by the officer listed below

The officer handling your request will be Mr Dermot McGeady, Corporate Services Division, Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, Co Dublin. He can be contacted at 6782025.

A final decision on your request will normally be sent to you within 4 weeks of receipt of your request. This means that you can expect to receive your decision by the 14/12/2005.

If you have not heard from us when the time allocated has expired, you are automatically entitled to appeal to the Department for a review of the matter. This review proceeds on the legal basis that the initial request is considered to be refused once the specified time for responding to it has expired.

You should also be aware that you are entitled to a review of the decision if your request is refused, or if you are for any reason dissatisfied with the outcome of your request. The review is a full and new examination of the matter carried out by a more senior member of staff of this Department. In the event that you need to make an appeal, you can do so by writing to Mr. John Wynne, FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, Co Dublin. Please note that there is a charge for all appeals of FOI requests. This charge is currently €75.00. A reduced fee of €25.00 applies if you are the holder of a Medical Card.

Please note that the Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources has a policy of posting a summary of your request, your name and address and the subsequent reply on the Department's website for reference purposes.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Murphy
FOI Unit

23 Library Hall, Church St
Tullamore, Co Offaly
Wednesday, November 9

**Freedom of Information Officer
All Government Departments**

To whom it may concern,

I wish to apply for access to documents that may be held by your Department under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 and the Freedom of information (Amendment) Act 2003.

I request the following:

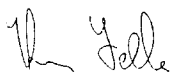
- (1) details of all allowances / expenses paid to (a) Ministers (b) Junior Ministers
- (2) (2) details of current salary and expenses paid to all non-civil service staff (ie political appointees)
- (3) details of the taxi / hackeny bill for the department (account bills only - I accept it would be impossible to trawl through employees receipts for occasional claims)
- (4) details of the cost of receptions held by Ministers / junior ministers and paid for by the department
- (5) details of restaurant bills for official entertaining by Ministers and Junior Ministers

In all cases, I am limiting the scope of my request to between November 1 2004 and November 1, 2005. In the case of Ministers and Junior Ministers, and political appointees, I request that information for each person be given separately and the person be named.

Please find enclosed a cheque for €15 in respect of the fee for this request. I would be grateful if you could include a separate receipt when next corresponding.

Should you wish to contact me you may do so at the above address, or by telephone at (0506) 20466, (087) 251 3813, fax (0506) 20467, or email at tomfelle@eircom.net.

Sincerely



Tom Felle