

26/07/2022

Re: Freedom of Information Request 202208 - Request Granted.

Dear

I refer to your request dated the 27th of June 2022 (which was received and acknowledged by this office on the 28th of June 2022) made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by the Land Development Agency (LDA).

those LDA board meetings in which potential, subtle or overt extortion was being applied to the LDA by landowners on or near LDA owned land was communicated to the agency with the view of extracting money from it to smooth or unlock development of land.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 26th of July 2022.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions.

Details of your request were provided to the relevant sections within the LDA to identify records held which were within the scope of your request. As part of this request minutes of board meetings were reviewed up to and including that held on the 14th of June 2022.

The following record identified as being within the scope of your request is extracted from the minutes of the Board meeting of the LDA held on the 31st of May, 2022.

6.3 “The CEO informed the board that while it is recognised that judicial review is a legitimate way to challenge the decision making processes of administrative bodies, the LDA would take a very aggressive line against any individual who attempted to use the threat of judicial review in a spurious manner and for personal financial gain in respect of future planning decisions relating to LDA developments.”

2. Right of Appeal

In the event that you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal this it. If you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Land Development Agency, 2nd Floor, Ashford House, Tara Street, Dublin 2 or by e-mail to foi@lda.ie.

Please note that a fee applies. This fee has been set at €30 (€10 for a Medical Card holder). Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque,

and made payable to Head of Finance, Land Development Agency, 2nd Floor, Ashford House, Tara Street, Dublin 2.

Payment can be made by electronic means, using the following details:

NON PAY GRANT

IE59AIBK93101257645196

BIC: AIBKIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI 202208) is included in the payment details.

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.

Please be advised that the Land Development Agency replies under Freedom of Information will be released into the public domain via our website at lda.ie.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on (01) 9103400.

Yours sincerely,



Monika Szyszko,
Compliance Manager