

26/06/2025

Re: Freedom of Information request 202505 – Request Refused.

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received the 03rd of June 2025, which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by the Land Development Agency (LDA). Your request sought:

- 1. All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) between LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Housing (only the Minister for Housing + Secretary General) about transfer of public land to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000*
- 2. All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) between LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Finance (only the Minister for Finance + Secretary General) about transfer of public land to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000*
- 3. All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) received and sent by LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform (only the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform + Secretary General) about transfer of public land to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 26th of June 2025.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

Details of the three parts of your request were provided to the relevant section within the LDA to identify records held which were within the scope of your request.

For clarity I will individually address each of the three parts of your request.

Part 1 - Refused

On foot of your request, I contacted the relevant business unit within the LDA to identify records held which were within the scope of your request; *All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) between LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Housing (only the Minister for Housing + Secretary General) about transfer of public land to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000.*

In this regard, I am to advise you that no such records have been identified as sought by you.

Therefore, I must refuse your request as the record sought does not exist and do so pursuant to Section 15(1)(a) of the Act. Section 15(1)(a) states that:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where-
(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,

Part 2 - Refused

On foot of your request, I contacted the relevant business unit within the LDA to identify records held which were within the scope of your request; *All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) between LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Finance (only the Minister for Finance + Secretary General) about transfer of public land to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000.*

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Part 3 - Refused

On foot of your request, I contacted the relevant business unit within the LDA to identify records held which were within the scope of your request; *All correspondence (from period 01 April 2025 to current date) received and sent by LDA CEO John Coleman and Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform (only the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform + Secretary General) about transfer of public land*

to the LDA, expanding the remit of the LDA into private housing delivery and changes to laws to allow LDA to operate in towns with a population of under 30,000.

In this regard, I am to advise you that no such records have been identified as sought by you.

Therefore, I must refuse your request as the record sought does not exist and do so pursuant to Section 15(1)(a) of the Act. Section 15(1)(a) states that:

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2. Right of Appeal

In the event that you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal against it. If you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Land Development Agency, 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, Ashford House, Tara Street, Dublin 2.

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

The Land Development Agency DAC

IE61AIBK93101264101092

BIC: AIBKIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (**FOI 202505**) is included in the payment details.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks of 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 may be released into the public domain via our website at lda.ie.



An Ghníomhaireacht Forbartha Talmhaíochta
The Land Development Agency

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris Lowe'.

Chris Lowe

Compliance & Safety Officer