

Ms Deirdre Jennings
Teach Cuilinn,
Ballymoneen Road
Knocknacarra
Galway
H91 TWX0

10th March 2017

Our Reference Number: FOI/2017/01

Dear Ms Jennings,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by SOLAS.

I have decided to part grant your request. My decision is outlined below.

You requested, *'Section 13.1 of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, 2009 requires that the Chairperson of each State body must furnish to the relevant Minister in conjunction with the annual report and accounts of the body, a comprehensive report covering the Group.*

I would be grateful if you can provide this additional report under Section 13.1 that was sent to the Minister from FÁS with the annual report for the years 2007 – 2011'.

I must refuse this element of your request under Section 15 (1) (a) **Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests** which states:

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.

A copy of the signed documents you require were not held by the Board Secretariat for the period 2007 to 2011. A full search was conducted in our off- site storage facility. We have searched all possible files to locate these documents in the Board packs (Agenda, Minutes, Papers) for the years 2007 to 2011 and any other location within these files where copies might have been located.

Following the reallocation of functions among Government Departments and agencies in 2011-2012, some FÁS functions transferred to the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Education and Skills. SOLAS was established in 2013. The records that you are seeking access to are the reports covering FÁS which were submitted to the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation by the Chairperson of FÁS in conjunction with the FÁS Annual reports for 2007-2011. It may therefore be possible that the Department of Education and Skills now hold these records. The contact details are foi@education.gov.ie.

You also requested, *'I would also like under section 4.1 of the 2009 code information passed between the Secretary of Fas and the board regarding corporate governance'*.

Please find attached records which have been retrieved in relation to this element of your request. All records have been released to you in full.

Rights 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, SOLAS, Castleforbes House, Castleforbes Road, Dublin 1. The cost of an appeal is €30 or €10 if you hold a medical card. You must make your appeal within 4 weeks of receiving this letter, (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 SOLAS.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Kelly
Freedom of Information Decision Maker