

**Private & Confidential**

[REDACTED]  
3 February 2022

**Our Ref.: FOIR 004 022**

**Re: – Freedom of Information Request**

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to the following request which you made under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 for records held by the Health Information and Quality Authority:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I am seeking the following information:

- Copies of any correspondence between the chair of Hiqa and the Minister for Health regarding disability centres, between 1st December 2021 to 6th January 2022.

Your request was received by the Health Information and Quality Authority on 7 January 2022 by email.

### **1. Decision**

A final decision has been made today, 3 February 2022, to refuse your request on the basis that the records sought do not exist.

This basis for refusing a request in these circumstances is provided for by Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act which states:

*“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,”*

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## 2. Appeal Rights

If you are unhappy with this decision you may seek an internal review. In the event that you wish to do so, please e-mail [foi@hiqa.ie](mailto:foi@hiqa.ie). The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of HIQA. Please note that a fee of €30 (€15 for medical card holders) applies in the case of an internal review of non-personal FOI requests [REDACTED]

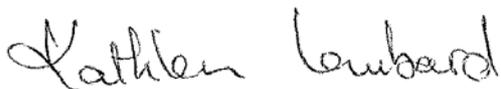
You should make your appeal within 4 weeks, from the date of this notification, where a day is defined as a working day excluding, the weekend and public holidays. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances.

## 3. Publication

It is the policy of HIQA to make decisions on non-personal FOI requests, including this decision [REDACTED] a copy of the records released, available to the public on our website <https://www.hiqa.ie/about-us/freedom-of-information>. Any personal information relating to you, such as your name etc., will be removed from the decision letter before this happens. This decision letter and the records released under FOI, will be added to our website approximately one week after today's date.

If you have any queries in relation to this decision, please feel free to contact Sean Lynch at [foi@hiqa.ie](mailto:foi@hiqa.ie).

Yours sincerely,



Kathleen Lombard  
Board Secretary and Risk Manager