Hi,
I'd like to make a request for info under the FOI act.

I'd like access to any documents/correspondence/briefing notes relating to CSIRT since its creation.

Regards
I refer to your request which was received by this office on 14/04/2015 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this FOI body. Your request sought:

Access to documents/correspondence/briefing notes relating to CSIRT since its creation.

The decision maker handling your request is Mr James Caffrey, Internet Policy Division, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2 and they can be contacted at 01 6782427. A final decision on your request would normally be sent to you within 4 weeks, where a week is defined as 5 working days excluding the weekend and public holidays. This means that you can expect a decision letter to issue not later than 13/05/2015.

There are some limited situations under the FOI Act which could mean that the period for a final decision may be longer than this 4 week period. If this occurs in the case of your request, you will be advised promptly in writing setting out the reason and the new decision date.

Should our final decision not reach you on time, please feel free to contact the decision maker named above to discuss any problems that may have arisen. If you have not heard from us once the allotted time has expired, you are automatically entitled to appeal 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. The review is a full and new examination of the matter carried out by a more senior member of staff.

In the event that you need to request such a review, you can do so by writing to FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Rd, Cavan, Co Cavan or alternatively by sending an e-mail to FOI.UNIT@dcern.gov.ie. You should state that you are seeking this review because an initial decision was not sent to you within the time allowed for a response. In that event, you would normally have 4 weeks (after the initial decision should have been sent to you) in which to make the appeal. Consideration will be given to late applications in appropriate circumstances.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact me by telephone at 01 6782902.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel Conaty
FOI Unit
17th April 2015

Freedom of Information Act Request FOI/2015/32

Dear

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “FOI Act”) for records held by this Department and received on 14th April 2015. I also refer to the letter issued by the FOI Unit of this Department to you dated 15th April 2015 informing you that I am the designated decision maker in regard to your request. Finally I also refer to email correspondence from myself with a view to clarifying and amending the request and giving reasonable assistance in accordance with Section 11(2)(a) of the FOI Act.

The request is for access to the following records:

"Access to documents/correspondence/briefing notes relating to CSIRT since its creation".

Following email correspondence from you, this has been interpreted to be "the work of CSIRT".

The records sought in the scope of the request is considerable in number and in my view constitutes a voluminous request in accordance with Section 15(1)(c) of the FOI Act. Furthermore there are insufficient particulars in relation to the information concerned to enable particular records to be identified by the taking of reasonable steps. I have therefore made a decision to refuse your request on administrative grounds in accordance with Section 15(1)(b) and Section 15(1)(c) of the FOI Act.

Section 15(1)(b) of the FOI Act states that "A Head .... may refuse to grant the request where the FOI request does not comply with section 12(1)(b)."

Section 12(1)(b) of the FOI Act refers to the need to include sufficient particulars in FOI requests so as to enable records to be identified by the taking of reasonable steps.

Section 15(1)(c ) of the FOI Act states that "A head .... may refuse to grant the request where in the opinion of the head, granting the request would, by reason of the number or nature of the records concerned or the nature of the

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information concerned, require the retrieval and examination of such a number of records or an examination of such kind of the records concerned as to cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with or disruption of work (including disruption of work in a particular functional area) of the FOI body concerned”.

If you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal it. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to Ms Bridgette Smith, Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan or by e-mail to FOI.Unit@dcenr.gov.ie.

Your correspondence should include a fee of €30, or a reduced fee of €10 if you are covered by a medical card, for processing the appeal. Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque made payable to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. If you wish to make payment by electronic means please contact the Freedom of Information Unit. 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. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 01 6782427.

Yours sincerely,

James Caffrey
Staff Engineer
Internet Policy Division

“Fáiltítear roimh comhshreagras i nGaeilge

29-31 Bóthar Adelaide, Baile Átha Cliath 2. ☏ +353 1 6782000 ☎ LóGhla 1890 44 99 00 LoCall 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2. Feáics +353 1 6783 Fax”
> On 15 Apr 2015, at 17:07, "James Caffrey" <James.Caffrey@dcenr.gov.ie> wrote:
> 
> > Dear,
> > 
> > This correspondence is without prejudice to Section 12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.
> > 
> > I refer to your phone call this afternoon in response to my email in regard to clarifying your request.
> > 
> > As already stated by the Press Office, "CSIRT" is a Computer Security and Incident Response Team (CSIRT-IE) in the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. The CSIRT-IE is not a separate body; it is a team of officials within DCENR. As such, the question of members, minutes and annual reviews does not arise.
> > 
> > The term "CSIRT-IE" arises in various documents associated with policy development and with policy implementation. Are you seeking documentation about the remit of CSIRT-IE or about the work of CSIRT-IE or both? You need to have a clear understanding as to what documentation you are looking for. By way of assistance, I attach a URL on what CSIRTs are as started by the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) http://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert. It would be helpful if you could focus on what particular aspects of CSIRT-IE you are looking for documentation on, encompassing the time period concerned and whether it concerns specified third parties. In the absence of being specific, it is possible that the number and nature of the records concerned would constitute a voluminous request.
> > 
> > Kind Regards,
> > 
> > James Caffrey,
> > Internet Policy Division,
> > Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources,
> > 29-31 Adelaide Road,
> > Dublin 2,
> > Ireland
> > 
> > +353 01 6782427
> > 
> >
> -----Original Message-----
> From: James Caffrey
> Sent: 15 April 2015 12:57
> To:
> Cc: FOI UNIT
> Subject: Foi request
> Importance: High
>
>
> :
> 
> Dear
> 
> This correspondence is without prejudice to Section 12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.
>
> Your email below refers. I have been assigned to administer this request (FOI/2015/32).
>
> In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, I am seeking to clarify your request so that the Department can facilitate access to records.
>
> Can you clarify what is meant by "CSIRT" as referenced in your request?
>
> Assuming "CSIRT" is clarified, you have identified three categories of record, namely "documents", "correspondence" and "briefing notes", ranging from the general to the specific.
> Briefing notes could be interpreted to mean particular documents drafted to inform Ministers and senior officials.
> Correspondence could be interpreted to mean emails and letters to and from other organisations and individuals.
> I am not sure what specifically you have in mind with the reference to "documents" and would welcome if you could be more precise in regard to this term.
> I would also be grateful if you could confirm whether you are agreeable to the interpretation of "correspondence" and "briefing notes" as set out above and if not what your understanding of these terms would be for the processing of this request.
>
> Thanking you in anticipation,
>
>
> James Caffrey,
> Internet Policy Division,
> Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources,
> 29-31 Adelaide Road,
> Dublin 2,
> Ireland
>
> +353 1 6782427
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From
> Sent: 14 April 2015 15:16
> To: FOI UNIT