Dear Sir/Madam

I hereby request details of all meetings held by former Minister Pat Rabbitte during his tenure in this Department with Mr Denis O'Brien, or Mr James Morrissey or Mr Leslie Buckley including dates, time and locations of meetings, agendas, minutes and notes of the said meetings and also all correspondence, on paper or electronic, telephone calls between former Minister Rabbitte and the three named individuals.

I make this request under the Freedom of Information Acts.

I am happy to receive the material on paper or electronically.

Kind regards
23rd July 2015

Re: FOI Request 2015-62

Dear,

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

I have made a final decision to fully-grant your request and I attach all relevant information with this letter. If you have any queries regarding this correspondence you can contact me by telephone at the number below.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. a schedule of all records covered by your request;

2. a statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these three parts in turn.

1. Schedule of Records

A schedule of all of the records covered by your request is enclosed with this letter. It shows the documents that this Department considers relevant to your request. It also gives you a summary and overview of the decisions as a whole. The schedule describes each document, and indicates whether the document is released in full, released with deletions or not released. The schedule refers to the sections of the FOI Act which apply to prevent release. As to these documents, the schedule also provides brief reasons for the decision which supplement the fuller and more detailed explanation below.

Fáiltear roimh comhfheagaras i nGaeilge
2. Rights of appeal

In the event that you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal this it. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, [Insert contact details] or by e-mail to [Insert Contact details]. Your correspondence should include a fee of €30 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, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan. 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 Department.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 01-6782180.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Clarke
Human Resources Division
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<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April 2015 Meeting request and briefing note from Maria Daly in relation to Cork Science Innovation and Technology Park</td>
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Dear Colm,

I’m writing today on behalf of Mr. Leslie Buckley who is Chairman of Advisory Board for the Cork Science Innovation and Technology Park (CSITP) which was established in 2009. Leslie and Martin O’Riordain (Cork County Manager) would welcome the opportunity to meet with Minister Rabbitte at some stage in the near future to further discuss the project. I’m attaching some support documents which includes a briefing document which has been shared with local Cork Ministers and a list of the members of the CSITP Advisory board.

The Presidents of both UCC and CIT Collage are committed to delivery of this strategic project in the context of commercialising R & D within 3rd Level Institutions. Tyndall Institute based in Cork is a leading example of previous success. Mr. Buckley & Mr. O’Riordain would like to meet with Minister Rabbitte in order to further discuss the following:-

- The need to position the project in the context of the Government’s Jobs Action Plan
- The requirement of an Innovative response by Enterprise Agencies in providing specialist support services to bridge the gap between R & D entrepreneurship and SMEs.
- Public Private Partnership across a number of agencies and the private sector to realise a first phase demonstration project

I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Warm regards

Maria

MARIA DALY
Personal Assistant
LF Buckley and Associates
Suit 110, One Grand Canal Quay, Dublin 2
P: +353 1432 5909
F: +353 1432 5959
E: mdaly@lfbuckleyandassociates.ie
Meeting Request

Meeting Request Mr. Leslie Buckley, Chairman of Advisory Board for Cork Science Innovation and Technology Park (CSITP)

Date Proposed: Thursday, June 23rd at 11.30 in Leinster House

To: Katherine Licken, Roger O'Connor

CC:

From: Daniel

RE: Please advise on the following meeting request

Robert: I recommend accepting the invitation re the Cork Science Innovation and Technology Park and commercialising R&D within 3rd Level Institutions. The Tyndall Institute has certainly been vary successful.

Advisor's comments:

Minister's Decision

Accept [ ] Regret [ ] Officials [ ]
Cork Science Innovation & Technology Park

Briefing Note

Background and Planning Policy Framework:

The original concept of a Science Park for Cork was put forward in the Cork Area Strategic Plan (2001-2020). The Plan set out a vision and strategy for the spatial, social and economic development of the Cork region up to 2020.

Innovation was seen as a central plank of the Cork Area Strategic Plan strategy which identified the Bishopstown/Ballincollig Areas as having the right ingredients for the development of a Cork "technopole". The Strategy also recognised the important contributions which UCC and CIT could make in the creation of such a technopole.

The Cork Area Strategic Plan was updated in 2008 by Indecon Consultants. A key feature of the updated strategy, was increased focus on economic and investment strategy. One key area of development opportunity, based on the strengths of Cork, was identified as the potential to foster greater innovation and research based links between firms and higher education institutions, within Cork.

The updated strategy, in particular, stated as follows:

There is a need to intensify linkages between the research community and industry in CASP to address the low ratio of R & D in certain areas. In addition to action by educational and research communities working with business, this will require the availability of sufficient land and appropriate space including a science park.

Ideally, a proposed science park should be located close to third level institutions as a specialist centre for R & D and technical innovation activities, modelled on best international practice in regard to the special role of such parks. There may be, however, a danger of restricting use to one specific activity as could apply to a narrow interpretation of a science park.

The current County Development Plan adopted in January, 2009, taking account of the above sequence of recommendations, states that the Council in collaboration with the third level institutions will make the necessary arrangements in the Council's Local Area Plan for Curraheen to ensure delivery of such a facility incorporating science, high tech and research related business.
Progress on Delivery of Science Park at Curraheen

As a first step in the process, the Council engaged Atkins Consultants, led by Mr. Jack Sheehan, Director, to prepare a Feasibility Study of developing a Science Park at Curraheen which is located on the Western fringe of Cork City (see map at Appendix 1). The consultants brief required them to:

(i) Examine international best practice for Science Parks.
(ii) Consider the physical development, including the appropriate scale and extent of a successful Science Park, as well as Infrastructure requirements.
(iii) Engage in consultations with key stakeholders.
(iv) Consider alignment with local and national policy.
(v) Examine the potential economic benefits to the Cork region of the development of a science park.

Atkins carried out the study in collaboration with UK Planning Consultants Roger Tym & Partners and Goodbody's Economic Consultants.

In tandem with the preparation of the Feasibility Study, the Council established a Stakeholders Group which in addition to the Council, included representatives of University College Cork, Cork Institute of Technology, IDA and Enterprise Ireland, with a view to acquainting the Consultants of the views of the respective stakeholders.

The key conclusions and recommendations of the Atkins Feasibility Study, which was completed in February, 2009 are as follows:

(A) Based on an examination of Science Parks in the UK and elsewhere, a site area of circa 60 hectares was identified at Curraheen, which would accommodate a high amenity campus style layout. The total building area would be 130,000 square metres approx. involving a range of building units with the focus being on a central "Hub Building" which would deliver a range of on-site services and shared facilities.

(B) The input by Goodbody's Economic Consultants to the Feasibility Study, included consideration of the estimated economic impacts of a Science Park pitched at the scale outlined above. They estimated that approx. 5,900 jobs could be created when the proposed park is built out and occupied, over a period of 20 - 25 years. In addition, the Feasibility Study suggests that the Science Park would have the potential to contribute significantly to regional GVA, creating an estimated per annum total value added of in excess of €450m.

(C) The Study considers that the proposed Science Park fully aligns with National Economic Development Policy and fits with regional strategic policy which seeks to promote an innovative, high value added, knowledge driven economy in the region.
(D) Key Sectors which offer the greatest prospects for continuing growth in the wider Cork economy, were identified as follows:

- Life Sciences including Healthcare, Med Tech and Bio Pharma
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT)/Software
- Food Technology – functional foods/nutritionals
- Micro Electronics
- Energy – sustainability – alternative energy – carbon critical design
- Back office value added HQ development functions

(E) Atkins consulted the following key public sector bodies –

- University College Cork
- Cork Institute of Technology
- IDA Ireland
- Enterprise Ireland
- Science Foundation Ireland
- Higher Education Authority
- Cork City Council
- National Roads Authority
- Bus Éireann

From these consultations, Atkins concluded that:

- The general concept of a Science Park was fully endorsed by the Stakeholders and the proposed location was considered both unique and ideal for the project.

- The economic and educational benefit of collaboration and co-operation between the third level Institutions and Industry was a key objective of the concept.

- Recognition by all of the above bodies of the excellent fit of the proposed Science Park with government strategic economic investment policy and educational development policy.

- There was an essential requirement for a Steering Group of key stakeholders to provide advice and guidance with a "Strong Champion" to drive implementation. The participation of the University was considered critical in this regard.
Layout and Infrastructure

The Atkins Study considered various options for the layout of the proposed Science Park including an outline schematic and design philosophy and also examined the necessary physical infrastructure, required to be put in place to facilitate development of the Science Park including road access, public transport, water services and utilities.

The estimated cost of providing the basic infrastructure to service the Science Park, including access road, bus facilities, water supply and foul sewer connections is estimated at approx. €10m.

The construction of the access road is considered a critical element in the delivery of the Science Park, and it is estimated to cost €7m out of the total cost of €10m. The Council are prepared to fund the road construction in the first instance with the cost being recouped by way of a Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme.

In terms of access to public transport, it is important to note that the route of a proposed Rapid Transit Corridor mooted by Indecon in the CASP update traverses the site which will significantly enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of the Park.

Landuse

The issue of ensuring the ethos and reputation of the Science Park is maintained in terms of not permitting inappropriate landuses, which would dilute the credibility of the Science Park is considered in the Study. The Study recommends a range of uses in the High Tech, Research & Development – knowledge based activities that would be appropriate to the Science Park. Furthermore, the adoption of an Admissions Policy, which would be overseen by an Advisory Board, is suggested as a means of ensuring that the Park is not allowed become a conventional Business Park. However, it is recognised that a restrictive approach to business or activities, would be inappropriate as it could stifle the innovation which the Science Park aims to promote.

Land Ownership

In addition to UCC, which has a landbank of circa 13 hectares at Curraheen, within the proposed development area, there are four other landowners situated within the recommended boundary of the Science Park. Two of these are property development companies with a long track record in the Cork region, with the remaining two landowners made up of a businessman and a local farmer.
Implementation Strategy

Atkins recommend the establishment of a Steering Group of key stakeholders. The remit of the Steering Group will, inter alia, include:

1. Consider and recommend an appropriate Business/Strategic Model.
2. Prepare Business/Implementation Plan, which would deal with the following matters:
   (i) Financial Strategy/Model and Funding Mechanisms including funding of infrastructure.
   (ii) Governance/Management Model/Advisory Board.
   (iii) Commercial and Marketing Strategy -
      Target Firms – what sectors/business activity are appropriate.
      Target Markets – what are appropriate markets.
   (iv) Brand/Identity – how to develop?
   (v) Admissions Policy to the Science Park.
   (vi) Role and function of Third Level Institutions
   (vii) Masterplan –
      Phasing
      Elements of first phase
      Location of Hub Building – size/scale
      Anchor building
   (viii) When and how develop Business Support Services.

Steps in Planning Process

Following completion of the Atkins Study, a presentation was made on the outcome of the Study to the Elected Members of Cork County Council and the relevant Area Committee.

Furthermore, individual meetings were held with the landowners and a further meeting was held with the aforementioned Stakeholders Group, to acquaint them with the contents of the Study.

The Council engaged in public consultation on the outcome of the Atkins Feasibility Study. This consultation took place in February, 2009 and a number of submissions
and observations were received and were generally supportive of the principle of a Science Park at Curraheen.

However, prior to engaging in the statutory process to amend the foregoing plans, the Council considered it prudent to take expert advice in relation to the business and commercial aspects involved in the establishment of the proposed Science Park which would be separate and complimentary to both the formal planning process and the Feasibility Study conducted by Atkins.

**Strategic Report**

The Council engaged Mr. David Rowe, Director of the University of Warwick Science Park and former Chairman of the UK Science Park Association. Mr. Rowe has in excess of 30 years experience in the knowledge-based business and has been attached to the University of Warwick Science Park since 1982.

Mr. Rowe’s brief was to set a vision and strategic direction for the park with the emphasis on the purpose, activities and desired economic impact of the park. In addition, Mr. Rowe met with all of the landowners and stakeholders mentioned previously.

Mr. Rowe’s report has been aimed at providing state of the art thinking about what the best science parks are, what they can potentially achieve and how they can deliver their goals.

Such Parks are internationally regarded as being centrally involved in the implementation of national and regional innovation policies.

Mr. Rowe’s report emphasised the following issues:

- The Stakeholders who have an interest in the Cork Science Innovation and Technology Park are clear that they want to see the Park delivering economic gains to the Cork region and for Ireland.

- Mr. Rowe gives further direction on the concept of the Hub Building which constitutes the heart of the park. The Hub is not alone the physical buildings but also embodies the programmes, projects and synergies that are in play between the occupiers and tenants of the Hub Building. The provision of the foregoing hard and soft infrastructure puts in place, the key resources and mechanisms by which the Cork Science Innovation & Technology Park will deliver its mission working with on-site and off-site businessmen and entrepreneurs.
The different spaces in the Hub would be made up of:

(1) An Incubation and Innovation Centre
(2) Research Institute (one or more)
(3) Training Centre
(4) Informal Meeting space
(5) Leisure/Recreation Space
(6) Realities of Life space (e.g., child-care facilities, banking, a chemist, dry cleaning, newsagent, 24/7 light shopping)

- The establishment of the Research Institute from the outset would, in the opinion of Mr. Rowe, bring both the third level institutions more readily into everyday involvement with the mission of the Science Park and provide technological focus to the Park.

- Cork has the potential to learn from the success of other Parks and take the step to become what is described as the first full-scale 3rd Generation European Science Park.

- The focus is on the built environment which is seen as an aid to the process of creativity, interaction and innovation. The principal defining characteristic of a 3rd generation science park is an active, effective, diverse and two-way university relationship with the Science Park acting as a bridge between research and the market place.

- Connectivity and networking at all levels is seen as essential to 3rd Generation Science Parks and its tenants.

Mr. Rowe’s report considers appropriate ownership/management models, suggests the extent of the remit for the advisory board and concludes with recommendations as to the nature and extent of the various buildings that would be incorporated in Phase 1. The preparation of a concise single masterplan for the entire land area to be designated for the Park and which is binding on all parties, is recommended.

Mr. Rowe is of the view that Cork is extremely well placed, in terms of its strengths, to establish itself as the leading Science Park of Ireland and be recognised at European level.

Such strengths include UCC’s reputation as a leading Research University, in particular the Tyndall Institute and its extensive collaboration with business and industry.

In addition, Cork Institute of Technology has taken a lead in operating the regions most significant business incubation activity through the Genesis programme at its purpose built Rubicon Centre.

Mr. Rowe suggests the presence of many multinational pharmaceutical and ICT businesses and a growing group of Irish owned businesses in these and other knowledge based sectors is evidence of demand relevant to a Science Park. The fact that a few of the multinationals are starting to invest in research and development activities in Cork suggests that, recession apart, the timing is ripe for the establishment of Cork Science Innovation & Technology Park.
Following on the finalisation of Mr. Rowe’s report, a high level advisory/steering group has been established to consider and give effect, where appropriate, to the recommendations of both the Feasibility Study and Strategic Report prepared by Mr. Rowe. This group has met on four occasions, with two sub-groups formed to provide focussed feedback on matters arising.

Meetings have also been conducted with landowners and other key stakeholders on individual and grouped basis to facilitate input into the project.

In tandem with the establishment of the steering group and the facilitation of stakeholder views, the Council’s Planning Policy Unit has prepared a draft zoning of the lands that will comprise the Cork Science Innovation & Technology Park in its Draft Local Area Plan, as well as preparing a Draft Masterplan for the physical development of the park.

This Masterplan has been informed by significant survey works undertaken by Cork County Council in terms of project analysis, best practice guidance and engineering related works. In this latter regard, a comprehensive topographical survey of the lands is complete, preliminary access road design is at an advanced stage, consultants have been appointed to undertake a flood risk assessment of the lands and water/foul drainage of the site has been designed.

Forward Planning & Strategic Development Section
Cork County Council
January, 2011
Cork Science Innovation & Technology Park

Advisory Board

Leslie Buckley, Chairman

Professor Charlie Daly, Food & Nutritional Sciences, UCC, Cork.

Michael Delaney, Head of Development, Cork CIT

Martin Doyle, Enterprise Ireland (South East Regional Office)

Professor Patrick Fitzpatrick, Head of Colleges, Science, Engineering & Food Science, UCC, Cork.

Dick Lehane, former Vice President, EMC

Tom McCarthy, McCarthy Developments Ltd.

Ray O'Connor, Regional Manager, IDA

Michael O'Flynn, Managing Director, O'Flynn Construction

Ger O'Mahoney, President, Cork Chamber of Commerce

Mark Poland, Director, Building & Estates, UCC, Cork.

Reg Shaw, Chairman, Health Research Board.

Peter Townsend, Property Division, IDA

Brendan Tuohy, former Secretary General, Department of Transport

Anita Maguire, Vice President, Office for Research & Innovation, UCC

Martin Riordan, County Manager, Cork County Council
Hi Daniel, it's just Denis. If that changes I will get in touch but I don't expect it to.

Nicky

Nicola

Are you in a position to confirm attendees for tomorrow's meeting?

Thanks

Daniel Carton
Minister Rabbitte's Office

Dear Daniel, Many thanks for coming back to me. Denis is free at 12.00 on Friday 27th and will go to Adelaide Road. I am unsure as yet who will join him but as soon as I know I will revert.

With kind regards and thanks,

Nicola Prendergast
Personal Assistant
6th Floor
One Grand Canal Quay
Dublin 2
Tel: +353 1 4325902
Fax: +353 1 4325901
Dear Nicola

In relation to the request below, I can confirm that Minister Rabbitte is available for this meeting on Friday the 27th of April at 12 noon. This meeting will take place in our Department office, 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2.

Can you please confirm if this date and time is suitable for you?

I would appreciate if you could send me the names of those attending this meeting and also any further information that may be required.

If you require any further information, please let me know.

Regards

Daniel Carton
Diary Secretary
Minister Rabbitte’s Office

From: Nicola Prendergast [mailto:nprendergast@communicorp.ie]
Sent: 18 April 2012 16:26
To: Jonathan Harte
Cc: Daniel Carton
Subject:

Dear Jonathan, Nice to talk to you. Denis is looking to meet with Minister Rabbitte in relation to the draft media bill.

The dates I have at the moment that he is in town are as follows:

Friday April 20th
Friday April 27th
Friday May 4th

Please let me know if any of the above suit.

Kind regards and thanks,

Nicola Prendergast
Personal Assistant
6th Floor
One Grand Canal Quay
Dublin 2
Tel: +353 1 4325902
Fax: +353 1 4325901

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This is also to certify that this mail has been scanned for viruses.
Tá eolaí sa teachtaíocht leictreonach seo (agus b'éheidir sa chomhairl ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príomháideach nó faoi rún. Is t'fhágadh an duine/na nádóire nó le haghaidh an aonáin atá anrinnite 'thuais agus le haghaidh an duine/na nádóire sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a thidiúl an teachtaiócht ceaptha do bhodh a fhíos agat nach gceadaithe nochtadh, cóipeáil, scríobadh nó úsáid an eolais agus nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaiócht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaíocht ar an eolas láithreach.

Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aimsiúth víreas sa phhost seo tar éis a scanadh.