10 August 2015

To whom it concerns,

Under the Freedom of Information Acts, I am requesting the following documents I believe to be held by your office.

*Correspondent between your department and Google re: the introduction and implementation of the Eircode postal code system.

If you have any queries about my request, please call me on ...
FOI Request Reference: FOI/2015/89

Dear

I refer to your request dated 10/08/2015 which was received by this office on 13/08/2015 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this FOI body. Your request sought:

"Correspondence between DCENR and Google re. the introduction and implementation of the Eircode postal code system."

The decision maker handling your request is Ms Caroline Green, Post Codes Division, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin, D02 X285 and she can be contacted at 01 6782190. 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 10/09/2015.

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@dcenr.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.

Please note it is the Departments policy to post a summary of all non-personal FOI Requests and decisions on the Departments website.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel Conaty
FOI Unit
24th August 2015

Re: FOI request 2015/89

Dear [Name],

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

A final decision was made on your request by myself, Caroline Green, Higher Executive Officer on the 24th August 2015. I may be contacted by telephone on 01-6782190 in order to answer any questions you may have, and to assist you generally in this matter.

I am sorry to inform you that we cannot locate the records and that I must therefore refuse your request. As is explained below, this decision is made under section 15(1)(a) of the Act.

Section 15(1)(a) of the Act states that an FOI request may be refused if:

‘the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,’

All correspondence between DCENR and Google regarding the introduction and implementation of the eircode system would be held in this section, the Postcode Division. We have searched and there are no records of any correspondence here in this section of the Department.

Decision

I have listed above the searches undertaken, and the results of those searches. In accordance with the requirements of section 15(1)(a) I am satisfied that all reasonable steps have been taken to identify and locate the records requested. I am

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unable to locate the records concerned and must therefore refuse your request on this basis.

Rights of Review

In the event that you are not happy with this decision you may seek a review of this decision by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Communications, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7 seeking an internal review of the matter and referring to or enclosing a copy of this letter. Please note, that a fee applies for such a review. The level of this has been set at €30 and payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque, and made payable to FOI Unit. Should you wish to may payment by electronic means please contact FOI Unit on 01 6782000. You should submit this 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 making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this body and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Green
Higher Executive Officer