



Roinn an Taoisigh
Department of the Taoiseach

[REDACTED]
13 November, 2018

Re: FOI/2018/0351

Dear Dr. O'Rourke,

I refer to the appeal dated 17 October 2018 which you made under the Freedom of Information Acts 2014 and the acknowledgement letter dated 22 October, 2018

I am a more senior member of staff in the Department of the Taoiseach than the original decision maker in this case. I have decided today (13 November, 2018) to affirm the original decision made in relation to your request. This review of your request is an entirely new and separate decision, and is explained as such below.

Your original request, sought access to the following records –

“A list (or index) of all records contained in the archive of the Inter-Departmental Committee to establish the facts of State interaction with the Magdalen Laundries (also known as the 'McAleese Committee').

At page 135 of the report of the McAleese Committee it is stated that 'Official records relevant to its mandate were identified by the Committee across a broad range of substantive areas and in the archives of various Departments, State agencies and bodies. These records were also scattered between individual case-files, policy files and general correspondence files. The archive of the Committee's work will include copies of such official records identified from across all Departments, State agencies and bodies (the originals remaining in their original files and locations) and certain materials generated by or for the Committee. It was decided that the archive of its work would be stored centrally at the Department of An Taoiseach. Restrictions will apply in relation to access to the archive, as is standard for material containing sensitive personal data.'

For the avoidance of doubt, my request is for a list of all of the contents of the archive which is now in the possession of your Department, albeit I expect and understand that you will protect sensitive personal data appropriately, for example by way of redaction.”

In arriving at this decision I have had regard to the original request, the records which were located on foot of that request and the appeal letter which you submitted in this regard.

Having regard to the aforementioned I have decided to affirm the decision made by the original decision maker in relation to your request.

You may make an ‘application for review’ of this decision to the Information Commissioner no later than 6 months from the date of this notification. Information in relation to fees payable can be found at <http://www.oic.ie/apply-for-a-review/fees-for-a-review/>.

Should you wish to make such an ‘application for review’ in writing, please use the details below:

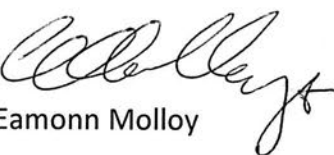
Office of the Information Commissioner,

18 Lower Leeson Street,

Dublin 2.

D02HE97

Yours Sincerely,



Eamonn Molloy

Assistant Secretary General