

Steven Fadian

From: Tobin, Sandra [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 May 2019 15:37
To: Lobbying
Cc: Corporate Governance
Subject: Second Review of the Regulation of Lobbying Act

Categories: Filed to eDocs

Dear Ms. Denning,

I refer to recent correspondence from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform to Seán Ó Foghlú, Secretary General Department of Education & Skills, seeking this Department's views on the second review of the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015.

Following consultation with relevant officials within the Department, the Department of Education and Skills has the following comments to make which you may wish to consider reflecting in the review.

Name of the individual making the submission	Sandra Tobin
Name of the organisation	Department of Education & Skills
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

What are the positive features of the Act?
The Act provides transparency for the wider public about the level of influence of interest parties on issues of public interest. The Department of Education & Skills publishes and maintains a publicly accessible register of working groups under the Transparency Code.
Does the Act fulfil the objectives it set out to achieve?
Yes.
Have any unintended consequences occurred, in your opinion?
No
Do you think the Act could be improved in any way, and if so, how?
It would be helpful if further clarity was provided on groups that must be registered under the Transparency Code. Section 5 (6) (a)
What suggestions for changes, if any, would you make?
Due to the diverse nature of engagement between working groups, Ministers and external bodies, additional clarity on requirements under the Transparency Code would be welcome. Information sessions for working group secretaries could be considered.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any queries in connection with the response above, please contact Sandra Tobin [redacted] or email [redacted]

Yours sincerely,
Sandra Tobin

Sandra Tobin
Corporate Governance Unit

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

[redacted]
[redacted]

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