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From : Liam A. Smyth <LASmyth@justice.ie> | | | Inbox
 Sent : Monday, December 6, 2004 12:26 PM
 To : "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
 Subject : Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)

Dear Mr. O'Gogain,

Thank you for your email.

As previously advised, it is not open to me to release the contact details sought by you.

As you are aware, the Legal Costs Working Group invited written submissions by 19 November in the context of the Legal Costs Review. The Group are not in a position to assist you as per your request for transcription services.

I can confirm that I have circulated to the Group a copy of your email of 23 November which gives the weblink for your audio submission along with a hardcopy of Mr. Luke Martin's correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Smyth
 Court Policy Division
 Department of Justice,
 Equality and Law Reform
 Old Faculty Building
 Shelbourne Road
 Ballsbridge
 Dublin 4

Ph. +353 1 602 8602
 Fax +353 1 602 8614
 Email - lasmyth@justice.ie

"Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>

To LASmyth@justice.ie

cc secretary@parentalequality.ie,
webmaster@parentalequality.ie

02/12/2004 19:57

Subject Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)

Liam,

Just for clarification, I wish to stress that I do not seek the contact details of any individual serving on the Legal costs working group in their personal capacity. Rather I am seeking the contact details that you yourself (in your employment role as a civil servant serving on the secretariat) use to contact these members (in that capacity only) of a group set up by the minister. I presume that it is not a personal contact that you make but purely a business communication. That is precisely the contact I wish to have access to. Having clarified this point and specified that I am not seeking "personal" information you might perhaps reconsider my request. In the spirit of the FOI act I suggest it would be possible to forego the unnecessary expenditure of taxpayers monies processing an FOI application that you could creatively assist me with.

In relation to your request for an update on my sending in a written submission I am presuming that by now you will have listened to the remaining 4 parts of my audio presentation as you had previously expected to. You will therefore appreciate the difficulty I face trying to compress a nuance-loaded scenario into a limited written format. After all your Minister Mr. McDowell himself has stated that "the Devil is in the detail". Therefore I was wondering if your group could provide transcription facility to enable the material to be typed up. Parental Equality is a particularly underfunded voluntary group and it would be unfair to deflect our miniscule resources from the coal-face support work of helping traumatised parents and their children and extended families in order instead to pay for transcription to meet the rather harsh mindset constraints of a professionally funded state working group. If you can provide this facility then both the audio material (with its inherent communication value) and the written material can assist the group with progressing its mandate on an inclusive basis. I submit that it is reasonable to suggest that the integrity of the working group would be underpinned by showing openness and flexibility in embracing new and broadened thinking and that in the spirit of real inclusive partnership and democracy every effort would be made to reach out to and hear as many diverse views as possible. After all the taxpaying end users of the legal system have waited an eternity already to have the prohibitively high level of legal costs addressed. It would be a pity for anyone to stand on ceremony, by insisting on dated thinking and apparently under exposed operational technologies, and deny the possibility of receiving potentially valuable insights from any quarter, including, in this case, the end users of the legal system.

Regards
Liam O Gogain

PS. Can you confirm that you have circulated to the Group a copy of my email of 23 November 2004 which gives the weblink for my audio presentation along with a hardcopy of Mr. Luke Martin's correspondence, as you earlier indicated you would do.

>From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
>To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
>Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)
>Date: Wed, 1 Dec 2004 15:33:47 +0000

>
>Dear Mr. O'Gogain,
>
>In relation to your query regarding the release of the contact details and
>email addresses of Group members, such information is normally deemed to be
>personal information and consequently, does not fall within the scope of
>the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003.
>
>However, you are welcome to forward a Freedom of Information request in
>this regard with ?15 attached.
>
>Please advise whether you intend to provide a written submission to the
>Group and if so, when it is likely to be received.
>
>Yours sincerely,
>
>Liam Smyth
>Court Policy Division
>Department of Justice,
>Equality and Law Reform
>Old Faculty Building
>Shelbourne Road

>Ballsbridge
>Dublin 4
>
>Ph. +353 1 602 8602
>Fax +353 1 602 8614
>Email - lasmyth@justice.ie
>
>
>
>"Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
>30/11/2004 13:36
>
>To
>LASmyth@justice.ie
>cc
>info@liamog.com, webmaster@liamog.com
>Subject
>Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>Liam
>Thanks for getting back to me so quick. The wonders of IT and Egovernment.
>I
>suppose I presumed that the group members emails and contact details would
>be available under FOI. Perhaps you could confirm that this is not the
>case.
>Regards
>Liam O Gogain
>
> >From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
> >To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> >Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)
> >Date: Tue, 30 Nov 2004 12:42:25 +0000
> >
> >Dear Mr. O'Gogain,
> >
> >I can confirm that I serve on the Legal Cost Working Group secretariat.
> >
> >It is not the practice to supply the personal contact details of Group
> >Members to third parties. Contact is made with Group through the
> >secretariat.
> >
> >In this instance, I will circulate to the Group a copy of your email of
>23
> >November 2004 which gives the weblink for your audio presentation along
> >with a hardcopy of Mr. Luke Martin's correspondence.
> >
> >As yet, I have listened to the first 3 parts of your audio presentation.
>I
> >hope to listen to the remaining 4 parts later today/tomorrow.
> >
> >Please advise whether you intend to provide a written submission to the
> >Group and if so, when it is likely to be received.
> >
> >The Legal Costs Working Group held its inaugural meeting on 19 October
>and
> >will hold its second meeting this evening. Records relevant to the
>ongoing
> >work of the Group are confidential and are not available to the public.
> >
> >Yours sincerely,
> >

> >Liam Smyth
> >Court Policy Division
> >Department of Justice,
> >Equality and Law Reform
> >Old Faculty Building
> >Shelbourne Road
> >Ballsbridge
> >Dublin 4
> >
> >Ph. +353 1 602 8602
> >Fax +353 1 602 8614
> >Email - lasmyth@justice.ie
> >
> >
> >
> >"Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> >26/11/2004 17:28
> >
> >To
> >LASmyth@justice.ie
> >cc
> >secretary@parentalequality.ie
> >Subject
> >Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >Liam
> >Thanks for the information. Perhaps you could forward me contact details
> >including email addresses for all of the group's members. I am assuming
> >that
> >you are acting as the group administrator and control its secretarial
> >facilities. If my assumption is incorrect please clarify. You maught
> >confirm
> >also if you yourself have been able to listen to the online submission.
> >Have
> >the group met and are meeting notes and minutes, decisions etc accessible
> >to
> >the public?
> >Regards
> >Liam O Gogain
> >
> >
> >
> >>From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
> >>To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> >>Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: (lasmth@justice.ie)
> >>Date: Fri, 26 Nov 2004 12:15:19 +0000
> >>
> >>Dear Mr. Ó Gogáin,
> >>
> >>Thank you for your email.
> >>
> >>A press release (dated 27 September 2004) with the required details on
> >the
> >>establishment of the Legal Costs Working Group is displayed under the
> >>Press Release link under the Media Centre on the Department's website.
> >>
> >>Link below -
> >>
> >><http://www.justice.ie/80256E01003A02CF/vWeb/pcJUSQ659CHB-en>
> >>
> >>alternatively, a copy of the press release is attached below -

> > >Thank you for your reply. Can you forward me by return, a list of the
> > >membership of the Working Group, a copy of its terms of reference and
> > >details of the steering up of the group. I presume that all such
>material
> > >exists in a digitised format.
> > >Regards
> > >Liam O Gogain
> > >
> > >PS.
> > >
> > >Have you confirmed from your IT division their policy with regards to
> > >downloading "media facilities from the internet"? If so perhaps you
>could
> > >forward a copy of this policy to me.
> > >
> > >
> > >>From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
> > >>To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> > >>Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: Delivery failure
> > >>>(lasmyth@justice.ie)
> > >>>Date: Wed, 24 Nov 2004 12:49:37 +0000
> > >>
> > >>>Dear Mr. Ó Gogáin,
> > >>
> > >>>Thank you for your email.
> > >>
> > >>>As you are aware, from the Department's advertisement, written
> > >>submissions
> > >>>in the context of the Legal Costs Review were invited to reach us by
> > >>post
> > >>>or by email by 5pm Friday, 19 November.
> > >>
> > >>>The Legal Cost Working Group is not in a position to consider the
> > >>Parental
> > >>>Equality audio presentation as a submission, however its membership
> > >>will
> > >>>be
> > >>>apprised for informational purposes that it is available on your
> > >>website.
> > >>
> > >>>The Department would be happy to facilitate you with an extension in
> > >>the
> > >>>dead-line to facilitate the compilation of a written submission.
> > >>
> > >>>Perhaps, you would advise me as soon as possible if, and when, the
> > >>>Department is likely to receive a written submission for circulation
>to
> > >>>the Group.
> > >>
> > >>>Thank you in advance.
> > >>
> > >>>Yours sincerely,
> > >>
> > >>>Liam Smyth
> > >>>Court Policy Division
> > >>>Department of Justice,
> > >>>Equality and Law Reform
> > >>>Old Faculty Building
> > >>>Shelbourne Road
> > >>>Ballsbridge
> > >>>Dublin 4
> > >>
> > >>>Ph. +353 1 602 8602
> > >>>Fax +353 1 602 8614
> > >>>Email - lasmyth@justice.ie
> > >>

> > >
 > > >
 > > > >"Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
 > > > >24/11/2004 08:35
 > > >
 > > > >To
 > > > >LASmyth@justice.ie
 > > > >cc
 > > > >secretary@parentalequality.ie
 > > > >Subject
 > > > >Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: Delivery failure
 >(lasmth@justice.ie)
 > > >
 > > >
 > > >
 > > >
 > > >
 > > >
 > > >
 > > > >Liam,
 > > > >thanks for getting back to me. I am surprised that you are having
 > > > >difficulty
 > > > >accessing the material online. You say that you "imagine our I.T.
 > > > >Division
 > > > >would be reluctant to allow me to download media facilities from the
 > > > >internet"Perhaps you might confirm your suspicions with your IT
 >section
 > > > >and
 > > > >revert to me with the department policy in this area. This will help
 >us
 > > > >to
 > > > >address your difficulty.
 > > > >
 > > > >Regards
 > > > >Liam O Gogain
 > > > >Chariman Parental Equality.ie
 > > > >
 > > > >PS: Last night on RTE Prime Time Minister McDowell stateded that he is
 > > > >in
 > > > >the
 > > > >>consultation process stage with regards to legislation on Judicial
 > > > >>Misconduct and that he, as I understood him to say , has been in
 > > > >>consultation with the judiciary among others. as end users of the
 > > > >>judicial
 > > > >>process we would wish to be included in the consultation process. I
 > > > >>would
 > > > >>appreciate if you could bring this tho the Minister's attention and
 > > > >>have
 > > > >>someone contact me in this regard.
 > > > >
 > > > >
 > > > >
 > > > >
 > > > >
 > > > >>From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
 > > > >>To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
 > > > >>CC: secretary@parentalequality.ie, webmaster@liamog.com
 > > > >>Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: Delivery failure
 > > > >>(lasmth@justice.ie)
 > > > >>Date: Tue, 23 Nov 2004 09:23:33 +0000
 > > > >>
 > > > >>Dear Mr. Ó Gogáin,
 > > > >>
 > > > >>>Would it be possible to forward a copy of the text of your 7 part
 > > > >>>submission - maybe a microsoft word document?
 > > > >>>
 > > > >>>>I'd imagine our I.T. Division would be reluctant to allow me to

> > >download
> > > > >media facilities from the internet.
> > > > >
> > > > >If I had the submission in Word format - it would facilitate
> > > > >circulation
> > > > >of the material.
> > > > >
> > > > >Thank you in advance.
> > > > >
> > > > >Regards,
> > > > >
> > > > >Liam Smyth
> > > > >Court Policy Division
> > > > >Department of Justice,
> > > > >Equality and Law Reform
> > > > >Old Faculty Building
> > > > >Shelbourne Road
> > > > >Ballsbridge
> > > > >Dublin 4
> > > > >
> > > > >Ph. +353 1 602 8602
> > > > >Fax +353 1 602 8614
> > > > >Email - lasmyth@justice.ie
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >"Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> > > > >23/11/2004 01:29
> > > > >
> > > > >To
> > > > >LASmyth@justice.ie
> > > > >cc
> > > > >secretary@parentalequality.ie, webmaster@liamog.com
> > > > >Subject
> > > > >Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: Delivery failure
> > > > >(lasmyth@justice.ie)
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >Liam
> > > > >
> > > > >I've had a word with my webmaster and he has restructured the site
> > > > >paths
> > > > >to
> > > > >make the info more accessible. You can see the link scandal of high
> > > > >legal
> > > > >costs at <http://www.liamog.com/issues.htm>
> > > > >If you have any further problems let me know or contact
> > > > >webmaster@parentalequality.ie
> > > > >
> > > > >Apologies for the difficulties you've had accessing the submission.
> > > > >Please
> > > > >confirm when you have accessed it successfully.
> > > > >regards
> > > > >Liam O Gogain
> > > > >
> > > > >>From: "Liam A. Smyth" <LASmyth@justice.ie>
> > > > >>To: "Liam O Gogain" <liamogogain@hotmail.com>
> > > > >>Subject: Re: Legal Costs Working group FW: Delivery failure
> > > > >>(lasmyth@justice.ie)
> > > > >>Date: Mon, 22 Nov 2004 13:06:30 +0000
> > > > >>
> > > > >>Dear Mr. Ó Gogáin,

>it's
> > > >FREE!
> > > > ><http://messenger.msn.click-url.com/go/onm0020047lave/direct/01/>
> > > > >Reporting-MTA: dns; JUSTMS2.justice.gov.ie
> > > > >Received-From-MTA: dns; hotmail.com (unverified [15.216.2.1])
> > > > >Arrival-Date: Fri, 19 Nov 2004 17:56:24 +0000
> > > > >
> > > > >Final-Recipient: rfc822; lasmth@justice.ie
> > > > >Action: failed
> > > > >Status: 5.0.0 (Permanent failure - no additional status
>information
> > > > >available)
> > > > >Remote-MTA: dns; 15.216.2.81
> > > > >Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 550 lasmth@JUSTICE.IE... No such user
> > > > >SMTP-Remote-Recipient: lasmth@JUSTICE.IE
> > > > >
> > > > >----- Message from Unknown on Unknown -----
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >The information transmitted is intended only for the person or
> >entity
> > >to
> > > >which it is
> > > >addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged
>material.
> > >Any
> > > >review,
> > > > >retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any
> > >action
> > > >in
> > > > >reliance
> > > > >upon, this information by persons or entities other than the
> > > >intended
> > > > >recipient is
> > > > >prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the
> > > >sender
> > > >and
> > > > >delete the
> > > > >material from any computer. It is the policy of the Department
>of
> > > >Justice,
> > > > >Equality and
> > > > >Law Reform to disallow the sending of offensive material and
> > > >should
> > > >you
> > > > >consider
> > > > >that the material contained in this message is offensive you
> > > > >should
> > > > >contact
> > > > >the
> > > > >sender immediately and also mailminder@justice.ie.
> > > > >
> > > > ><< attach3 >>
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > >
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> > > > >The information transmitted is intended only for the person or
> >entity

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> > >Equality and
> > >Law Reform to disallow the sending of offensive material and should you
> > >consider
> > >that the material contained in this message is offensive you should
> >contact
> > >the
> > >sender immediately and also mailminder@justice.ie.

> > ><< Pressrelease0904.doc >>

> > >
> > >_____

> > >Express yourself instantly with MSN Messenger! Download today it's FREE!
> > ><http://messenger.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200471ave/direct/01/>

> > >
> > >The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to
> > >which it is
> > >addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any
> > >review,
> > >retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in
> > >reliance
> > >upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended
> > >recipient is
> > >prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and
> > >delete the
> > >material from any computer. It is the policy of the Department of
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> > >Equality and
> > >Law Reform to disallow the sending of offensive material and should you
> > >consider
> > >that the material contained in this message is offensive you should
> >contact
> > >the
> > >sender immediately and also mailminder@justice.ie.

> > >
> > >_____

> > >Express yourself instantly with MSN Messenger! Download today it's FREE!
> > ><http://messenger.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200471ave/direct/01/>

> > >
> > >The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to
> > >which it is
> > >addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any

>review,
>retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in
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>upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended
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>prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and
>delete the
>material from any computer. It is the policy of the Department of Justice,
>Equality and
>Law Reform to disallow the sending of offensive material and should you
>consider
>that the material contained in this message is offensive you should contact
>the
>sender immediately and also mailminder@justice.ie.
>

Express yourself instantly with MSN Messenger! Download today it's FREE!
<http://messenger.msn.click-url.com/go/onm0020047lave/direct/01/>

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. It is the policy of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to disallow the sending of offensive material and should you consider that the material contained in this message is offensive you should contact the sender immediately and also mailminder@justice.ie.



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