



**An Roinn Gnóthaí
Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of
Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Our Ref: FOI/Req/21/044

3 March 2021

I refer to your recently submitted request for information, made under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, in which you requested;

Records relating to training sessions for new election roster members held in 2019 to include details of observers in attendance, details of trainers and fees paid to them, copy of training materials and photographs taken.

I also refer to the acknowledgement of this request sent on 9 February 2021.

You previously made a request for the same records on 31 August 2020. You were issued with a decision on 25 September 2020. Your request was refused under Section 15(1) (g) of the FOI Act and I am sending you a copy of the decision letter for your information.

This request is, word for word, the same as your request of 31 August, for which you received a decision from this Department. After careful consideration, I have decided to refuse your request under section 15(1)(g) of the FOI Act, on the grounds that it is frivolous. It is my opinion that as you have already submitted this same request and received a decision, that doing so again is frivolous.

Section 15(1)(g) of the FOI Act provides that *“A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where the request is, in the opinion of the head, frivolous or vexatious”*.

Right of Appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to foi@dfa.ie. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30 (€10 for medical cardholders). A copy of the medical card should be provided to avail of the reduced fee. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at foi@dfa.ie, or 01-4082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. 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.

Yours sincerely,

David Ormond
FOI Section
Department of Foreign Affairs