

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

15 August 2017

Our Ref: FoI/Req/17/139

Mr Ken Foxe  
Right to Know

Dear Mr Foxe,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

- *Details of how much was spent with regard to the official visit of Justin Trudeau to Ireland. This request to cover the cost of accommodation, entertainment, dining, receptions, official transports, flowers, and any other related expense.*
- *Copies of all of the invoices and receipts relating to the above.*

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 31 July 2017.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade works closely with colleagues in Áras an Uachtaráin, the Department of the Taoiseach, other government Departments, as well as stakeholders such as State Agencies in the development and delivering of programmes for high-level visits that support the promotion of Ireland's interests internationally and contribute to the development of strong economic, political and cultural links. The recent visit to Ireland by Prime Minister Trudeau helped to strengthen political ties between Ireland and Canada, draw attention to the important historical links between our countries and increase awareness of economic opportunities arising from the EU-Canada trade agreement.

Details of the relevant costs are set out in the table below. These costs cover items such as transportation of the Principals and delegation, catering, official photography, printing and airport costs.

In accordance with standard international practice relating to the courtesies extended to visiting high-level representatives, arrival and departure facilities at the airport were provided. These services facilitate secure and prompt entry and exit from the airport; a necessary security measure for Heads of State and Government and other high-level representatives.

In relation to other service costs for each visit, business is allocated on the basis of the most economically advantageous cost savings arrangements, value for money and high quality service and products. Cost savings continue to be sought where possible.

<b>Costs incurred by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in relation to the visit to Ireland of Prime Minister Trudeau from 3 to 5 July 2017</b>	
Accommodation	€760.00
Entertainment	Nil
Dining (includes food and beverage costs)	€8,053.70
Receptions	Nil
Flowers	Nil
Official transport	€9,325.40
Airport costs	€7,000.00
Air fares	€1,327.51
Official Photography	€2,736.75
Standby electrician charge	€91.94
Printing	€458.78

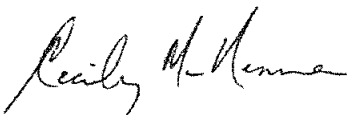
With regard to relevant invoices and receipts I have identified 15 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. Bank details and VAT numbers have been redacted from the records. In the case of record 10, sections of the record are also redacted as they do not relate to this visit and are therefore outside the scope of the request.

#### **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](mailto: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. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at [foi@dfa.ie](mailto: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



Cecily McKenna  
Protocol Division