



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

Our Ref: FOI/Req/19/240

27 August 2019

Mr Craig Hughes
Irish Daily Mail

Dear Mr Hughes,

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:

I am seeking the following submission sent through the e-submissions system:

- *Approval for use of Farmleigh House for Dinner hosted by the Tánaiste [date 11/6/2019]*

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 8th August 2019.

I have identified the record that falls within the scope of your request and have made a decision to grant full access to this record.

This year's Presidential Distinguished Service Awards will be presented by the President at Áras an Uachtarain on 21st November 2019. Following this ceremony, the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade will host a dinner for the Award recipients and their families at Farmleigh House.

Nominations for this year's Awards were considered by the High Level Panel on 27th June, and their recommendations will be submitted to the Government in September for approval. The names of this year's recipients will be announced after the Government decision has been taken.

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. 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,

Yvonne Ellison
Anne Norton
Deputy Director
Irish Abroad Unit

PP