

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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2018/270

Date: 15/11/2018

Dear Ms. Ryan,

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:

Correspondence received through the Tánaiste's Office from:

Politicians; Political parties; Members of the public;

In relation to Brexit-specific border issues, and replies to that correspondence. The timeframe is 1 June 2018 to 18 October 2018.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 6 November 2018.

I have identified thirty-six records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant seven of the records and part-grant the remaining twenty-nine records.

The records that are part-granted have been edited only insofar as to remove names and identifying details of individuals, where these are not relevant to the request, under Section 37 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Section 37(1) is a mandatory exemption, but also one where a public interest test applies. The redacting of these records has no impact on the substance of the information contained in the records, so on balance, I have decided not to release these details.

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 \leq 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

Georgia Knapp Ireland, UK and Americas Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade