

Our Ref: Fol/Req/18/311

Date: 9 January 2019

Dear Mr. O'Connell,

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:

All correspondence between Minister of State Finian McGrath and the Tánaiste between the period 01 January 2018 and the present day (10 December 2018)

Your request has been taken to refer to all correspondence between the Tánaiste and Minister of State Finian McGrath between 01 January 2018 to 10 December 2018, the date of receipt of your FOI request.

I have identified 24 records that fall within the scope of your request and these are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant access to 8 of the records, grant part access to 1 and refused access to 15 records. These records are refused under section 37 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act entitled **Personal Information**. The records contain personal information of a third party, in that they relate to representations made by Minister of State Finian McGrath to the Tánaiste concerning passport and consular related matters. The 9 records released and part released are also attached.

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

Shirley Pollock
Office of the Tánaiste and
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade