



An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Mr. Kieran Dineen
Newsroom
The Irish Sun
Bishop's Square
Redmond Hill
Dublin 2

26 June, 2014

Ref: FoI/Req/2014/050

Dear Mr. Dineen,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003 dated 27 May, 2014, for records held by this Department, in which you requested:

- *Documents detailing stocks of wines, spirits and other alcoholic drinks kept by the Department of Foreign Affairs in Iveagh House to include the value, cost, name year and make of each bottle of wine, spirit and other alcoholic drinks as well as details of the drinks purchased in 2013 – or the last year on record – to include value, cost, name, year and make of each bottle of wine, spirit and other alcoholic drink purchased.*

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 6 June, 2014.

The Department holds a stock of wine for use in relation to State and Official hospitality. The stock facilitates provision of wines suitable for official events at a significant discount from the cost of purchasing them from caterers at the time they are required. As a general rule, wine served at official functions costs less than €20. Similarly, the Department's stock of spirits is provided for use in relation to State and Official hospitality although no spirits were

used in 2013. In keeping in line with overall budgetary expenditure, the purchase of new stock is kept under continuing review to ensure value for money.

Your request for *details of the drinks purchased in 2013 – or the last year on record – to include value, cost, name year and make of each bottle of wine, spirit and other alcoholic drink purchased* falls to be refused under Section 10 (1) (a) as no such records exist.

Expenditure by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to add to its wine or spirit stock for use in relation to State and Official Hospitality in 2013 was nil.

I have identified 2 records that fall within the scope of your request. My decisions in relation to the records are detailed in the schedule below.

SCHEDULE – FOI Request 14/050			
Record Description		Granted/Part-Granted/Refused	Section exempted under:
1.	Documents detailing stocks of wines including value, cost, name, year and make of each bottle	Part-Granted	Section 27
2.	Documents detailing stocks of spirits including value, cost, name, year and make of each bottle	Part-Granted	Section 10 (1) (a)

Records 1 - 2

1. A copy of the wine list held by the Department, including total value, names, year, and make of each bottle is attached. Details of unit cost have been refused under Section 27.
2. A copy of the spirit list held by the Department including total value, cost, name and make of each bottle is attached. Details regarding year fall to be refused under Section 10(1)(a) as they do not exist.

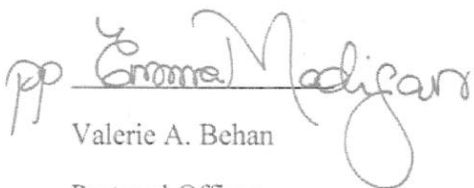
Right of Appeal

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. A fee applies for an appeal, with the exception of an appeal against the imposition of a fee, the level of this fee has been set at €25. Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque made payable to the Secretary General, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

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

pp  Valerie A. Behan

Protocol Officer