

## **An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála** Baile Átha Cliath 2

## **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade** Dublin 2

Our Ref: FoI/Req/16/088 Hugh O'Connell Sunday Business Post, Hambledon House, 19/26 Pembroke Street Lower, Dublin 2

8 August 2016

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:

"A detailed breakdown of all costs associated, including, flights, hotels, and expenses incurred during the government visits to the UK in relation to the EU referendum between the period 1 January 2016 and 27 June 2016 inclusive.

Copies of all briefing material provided to Ministers who travelled to the UK on visits in relation to the EU referendum between the same period.

A copy of all briefing material provided to Ministers related to the UK's EU Referendum between the same period".

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 15 July.

I have identified 57 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to fully grant seven of the records and part-grant another record.

Where access has been refused, the records are exempt from release under sections 15(1)(d), 30(1)(c), and 33(1)(d). Section 15(1)(d) refers to records which are already in the public domain, and in three cases I have included links to these documents as applicable. Section 30(1)(c) applies to records which would "disclose positions taken, or to be taken, or plans, procedures, criteria or instructions used or followed, or to be used or followed, for the purpose of any negotiations carried on or being, or to be, carried on by or on behalf of the Government or an FOI body". Section 33(1)(d) applies to records which if released could adversely affect "the international relations of the State".

## 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@dfat.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 <a href="mailto:foi@dfat.ie">foi@dfat.ie</a>, 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,