

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Dublin 2

27th February 2015

Our Ref: FoI/Req/15/015

Pearse Doherty T.D. Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Dear Mr Doherty,

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, briefing notes or any other records sent internally in the Department of Foreign Affairs (including to or from the Minister of his office] or between that Department and any other government department or Minister on the issue of the holding of a Debt Conference and Ireland's position on the issue.'

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 5th of February.

I am the deciding officer in this case. I have identified 38 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 15 of the records, part-grant 8 of the records and refuse 15 of the records.

Where access has been refused or part-granted, the records or the withheld part thereof are exempt from release under Section 33 (1) (d), Section 33(2)(b)(ii), Section 33(3)(c)(ii), or a combination thereof, of the Freedom of Information Act 2014. In respect of the records where mandatory refusal does not apply, I am satisfied that release of these records would adversely affect the international relations of the State and that the public interest is best served in refusing access to them.

Records numbers 6, 13, 16, 19, 3, 29 and 32 contain information which does not fall within the scope of the request. With regard to these records, all information which is related to the holding of a debt conference has been fully granted, and information which is not relevant has been redacted accordingly.

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 <u>foi@dfat.ie</u>. 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 <u>foi@dfat.ie</u>, 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