25 October 2016

Our Ref: FOI/REQ/2016/149

Pamela Duncan

Dear Ms Duncan,

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:

*Passport Service Weekly Updates covering the period between July 23rd 2016 to present*

I have identified five records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to part-grant all five records.

Where access has been refused, the records are exempt from release under the following Sections of the FOI Act:

*Section 29. (1) A head may refuse to grant an FOI request if the record concerned contains matter relating to the deliberative processes of an FOI body (including opinions, advice, recommendations, and the results of consultations, considered by the body, the head of the body, or a member of the body or of the staff of the body for the purpose of those processes), and the granting of the request would, in the opinion of the head, be contrary to the public interest;*

*Section 30. (1) A head may refuse to grant an FOI request if access to the record concerned could, in the opinion of the head, reasonably be expected to (a) prejudice or impair (iii) lawful methods, systems, plans or procedures for ensuring the safety of the public and the safety or security of persons and property.***

**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 
foi@dfat.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

\[Signature\]

Catherine Bannon
Passport Service