

Our Ref: Fol/Req/16/188

Ms Siobhan Fahy Fahy Law Solicitors,

19 January 2017

Dear Ms. Fahy,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (Act) for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

All communications between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and European Commission and/or their or your servants agents and associates and/or from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and inter alia between them in respect of the breach or alleged breach of any EU Directive which eased restrictions on commercial communications, including advertising, by lawyers and other regulated professionals within the EU.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on the 16th November.

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 refuse access to these records for the reasons set out in the Schedule 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@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

Stephen Ryan

EU Affairs and Coordination

78 Harcourt Street

Dublin 2