

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Our Ref: FoI/Reg/17/025

Ken Foxe

Dear Mr. Foxe,

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:

Copies of any records, recommendations, briefings, memos, submissions and so on explaining why the ambassadorial residence in Vienna needed to be moved from October 2014 to the date of the move in November 2015.

A table of costs associated with the move.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 13th February, 2017.

I have identified 6 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 6 of the records.

The documents you are receiving relate to submissions made by the Ambassador to the Head of Corporate Service and the Head of Architectural Services of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in respect of deficits identified with the residence of Ireland in Vienna.

It should be noted that the decision to move out of the old residence was taken during October 2014 and the decision was to start the process of moving to a suitable smaller premises of not more than 450sq metres, subject to market conditions and availability. You have been granted all the documents that lead up to the decision in addition to a table of costs associated with the move.

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

Kerry O'Sullivan