

Our Ref: FoI/Req/2017/163

Valerie Hanley  
Irish Mail on Sunday  
3rd Floor, Embassy House  
Herbert Park Lane  
Ballsbridge  
Dublin 4

Dear Ms. Hanley,

I refer to the request of 23 August which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

**All external correspondence including letters, memos, faxes, e mails, SMS messages and social media messages between the Department and Prime Minister Trudeau's office, the Canadian Head of Protocol, the Chicago Mayor's office, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Montreal Pride festival. I am requesting this correspondence be within the time frame of two months before the visit until two weeks after the visit.**

I refer also to the acknowledgment of your request which was sent to you on 8 September 2017.

1 records has been identified as falling within the scope of your request. The record is listed in the schedule attached. It has been decided to grant partial access to this record.

The partial granting of access is due to the exemptions listed under section 33. (1) (d) of the Freedom of Information Act – Security, defence and international relations.

This Department manages relations between Ireland and 178 countries, operating in a complex and diverse international environment, in a variety of locations and under varying local laws and customs. In order to effectively carry out its role, the Department must maintain trust and confidence between governments and other interlocutors. If the Department does not maintain the mutuality of trust, its ability to protect and promote Ireland's interests could reasonably be expected to be adversely affected.

I want to apologise for the significant delay in responding to this request. Unfortunately there were delays both in finding the record and in finalising the response.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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

Jack McCormack,  
Assistant Director, U.S & Canada  
Americas Unit  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade