



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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2019/071

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Requester,

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:

- A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the campaign to get a seat on the UN Security Council. This is to include details of all the different areas of where the money was spent, the amounts and explanations. Plus all records available in relation to the spend.

Please find attached a schedule of costs associated with the official launch of Ireland's UN Security Council candidature. The official launch of Ireland's candidature took place on July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018 on the North Lawn of the Headquarters of the United Nations.

The costs itemised in the attached document refer both to the cost of hosting the event itself, travel and accommodation costs for the Tánaiste, Minister of State Cannon and relevant officials and logistical support staff and approximated subsistence costs for the travelling officials and logistics support staff.

It should be noted that in addition to travelling to New York to attend the Security Council campaign launch and associated events; An Tánaiste, Minister of State Cannon, the Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other senior officials engaged in a number of meetings unrelated to the Ireland's candidature for the Security Council.

In addition to the information on costs provided in the attached document, I can confirm that there were no charges incurred by the Irish Government with regard to tickets for the U2 concert on the eve of the official launch of Ireland's candidature. The tickets to the concert for the UN Ambassadors were generously provided as a gift by U2.

Furthermore, please find attached a schedule of costs to date associated with the promotion of Ireland's UN Security Council candidature. This includes materials produced to coincide with the launch event in New York on 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2018 and materials which be utilised throughout the remaining 16 months of Ireland's Security Council campaign.

Costs related travel related to the promotion of Ireland's candidature is also included in this schedule. Bilateral and multilateral meetings, and other international fora engagements have been availed of by officials to promote Ireland's candidature, our commitment to the United Nations and multilateralism and to outline the values we seek to bring to the work of the Security Council during those engagements.

### 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@dfa.ie](mailto:foi@dfa.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@dfa.ie](mailto:foi@dfa.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



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Sharon Lennon  
United Nations Policy