

Our Ref: Fol/Req/18/074

20 February 2019
Wayne O'Connor
Sunday Independent

Dear Mr. O'Connor,

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

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, I request access to the following records which are non-personal and which I believe are held by the Department of Foreign Affairs, dated between September 1, 2018 and the date of this letter.

- *A record of all correspondence, briefing documents, draft briefing documents, memos meeting notes and other records associated with the following lobbying activity and meetings:
<https://www.lobbying.ie/return/35113/facebook-ireland-limited>.*
- *A record of all correspondence, briefing documents, draft briefing documents, memos, and meeting notes from interactions between the Tánaiste/Minister's office and Facebook.*

I am the Deciding Officer in this case. I have found no records associated with this request in the Permanent Representation (I note that the lobbying activity cited was a phone call). The Tánaiste's office has also confirmed that there were no requests from Facebook for meetings within the specified period.

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. 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, 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. Should you have anything you wish to discuss regarding the above, please telephone me at 00 32 490 56 48 43.

Yours sincerely



Eddie Brannigan

Head of Press Relations and Information unit, Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU