



29 November 2019

Our Ref: FOI/Req/2019/315

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:

**a copy of the pre-budget submission from your Department to the Department of Finance ahead of Budget 2020. A copy of any cover, explanatory or accompanying letters sent by the Minister or Secretary General of your Department along with the pre-budget submission.**

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 12 November 2019.

The answer to your request is as follows:

The Department holds eight records of email communications between senior officials of this Department and relevant interlocutors in the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform relating to the Department's pre-budget submission ahead of Budget 2020. The records, listed in the attached schedule, are being released in full.

There were no letters sent by the Tánaiste or either of the Ministers of State attached to the Department. Neither was there a letter sent this year by the Secretary General of the Department.

### **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,

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