



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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/20/140

7 August 2020

Dear Mr Foxe,

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 on 6 July 2020 for access to records held by this Department as follows:

“A spreadsheet/database/record of all costs incurred by your Department incurred as part of Ireland's bid to secure a seat on the UN Security Council. This record to include a line by line account of expenditure associated with the bid.”

I also refer to our subsequent discussion where you agreed to limit the scope of a line by line account of expenditure to 1 August 2019 – 17 June 2020.

I have made a decision to grant your request in full.

The information requested is listed in the schedule below.

Schedule of Records		
Record 1	UN Security Council campaign costs per category 1 July 2018 – 17 June 2020	Granted
Record 2	UN Security Council campaign costs 1 August 2019 – 17 June 2020 (extract from financial system)	Granted

Costs contained in the schedule include costs for materials produced to coincide with the launch event in New York on 2 July 2018 and materials used throughout Ireland's Security Council campaign. 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 UN and multilateralism, and to outline the values we seek to bring to the work of the Security Council during those engagements.

Item 3 includes gifts that were given to a small number of dignitaries during the campaign. Gifts included scarves (€17), ties (€30) and pens (€28.26).

The line by line expenditure includes reimbursement of expenses to retired officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade who worked on the campaign as Special Envoys. They did not receive payment for their work. They were provided with a mobile phone and laptop from Department stock for the duration of their time working on the campaign, and their international travel costs were paid by 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@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.

Yours sincerely

Julie O'Brien
Deputy Director, UN Security Council Task Team