

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2018/056

9 April 2018

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:

copies of the invoices associated with the following transactions:

A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS	17/11/2017	SYDNEY
A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS	28/02/2017	MEXICO
A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS	13/02/2017	Protocol
A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS	07/11/2017	Political Division
A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS	07/11/2017	Legal Division

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 16 March 2018.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is involved in the planning, coordination and execution of overseas travel by the President. Information related to Presidential travel is covered by parts 1 to 3 of the request however this Department is not in a position to provide access to the information as the FOI Act does not apply to records relating to the President, (Section 42 (h) of the Act.) In that light, I have identified one record that falls within the scope of your request. The record is listed in the schedule below and I have made a decision to grant it.

Re	cord Description	Granted/Part-Granted/Refused
1.	Sutton Court Invoice	Granted

The core functions of this Department is to provide foreign policy support to the Government, key services to the citizen and promote Ireland's interest in a range of fora to secure the maximum benefit from Ireland's international engagement. Record 1 is an invoice covering apart-hotel accommodation costs for officers of the Department assigned to our political and legal divisions who were covering <u>First Committee - Disarmament and International Security</u> and <u>Sixth Committee</u> at the United Nations General Assembly in New York from end of September to early November 2017.

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 <u>foi@dfa.ie</u>. 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

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