



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

Our Ref: FOI/Req/18/317

17 January 2019

Dear Mr Flanagan

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:

- Any correspondence between the Department and Mr. Michel Barnier or any other member of the Task Force on Article 50 Negotiations with the United Kingdom that relates to Ireland's policy of military neutrality.

Having conducted a search of the Department's records, I have not located any documents that fall within the scope of your request. Therefore your request falls for refusal on administrative grounds under Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act, as "the record concerned does not exist".

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



Barry Guihen