



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Mr Brian Byrne
Independent Newspapers
Independent House
27 – 32 Talbot St
Dublin 1

28 April 2014

Ref: FOI/REQ/14/031

Dear Mr Byrne

I refer to your application under the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003 for access to the following information:

Gifts the Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore has received since March 2011. A description of each gift received, the name and title of whom he received each gift from, an approximate value in euro, for each gift received and the current status of each gift, including, whether or not they were gifted away and where they are currently situated.

Under section 15 of the Ethics in Public Office Act (1995) gifts presented to office holders valued in excess of €650 are deemed to be gifts to the State and must be recorded accordingly following valuation through the Office of Public Works. No such gifts have been received by the Tánaiste. There is no requirement to retain lists of token gifts of the type customarily presented to officeholders of this Department.

Therefore, your request falls to be refused under Section 10(1)(a) of the FOI Act – *the record 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. A fee applies for an appeal, with the exception of an appeal against the imposition of a fee, the level of this fee has been set at €75. Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque made payable to the Secretary General, Department of Foreign Affairs.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie O'Brien".

Julie O'Brien
FOI Officer