



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Mr Senan Molony

Irish Daily Mail

C/O Political Correspondents

Leinster House

Dublin 2

22 September 2014

Our Ref: FOI/REQ/14/071

Dear Mr Molony

I refer to your recent application for access to information under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 and 2003 as follows:

"[A] copy of all records, within the timeframe Mar 1st 2011 to the date of this letter, in relation to parliamentary questions from Andrew Doyle T.D., Fine Gael T.D. for Wicklow. In particular, I am led to believe that the Department had decided not to answer any further PQ's from Andrew Doyle (in relation to foreign policy, etc.), to seek specifically any records relating to the decision, and to learn the background and rationale for such a step."

I am the deciding officer in this case. I have decided to refuse your request under Section 10(1)(a) of the FOI Act, as the information requested by you does not exist.

In the timeframe set out in your request, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade has answered over five thousand Parliamentary Questions. This Department has never taken a decision to not prepare a response to a Parliamentary Question, nor would it have the authority to do so.

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 and Trade.

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". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Julie O'Brien

FOI Officer