

AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2

DUBLIN 2

30 March 2016

Mr Michael Sheils McNamee
3rd Floor
Latin Hall
Golden Lane
Dublin 8

Our Ref: FoI/Req/16/027

Dear Mr McNamee,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records you believe to be held by this Department as follows:

- All written or electronic correspondence between all representatives and officials to and from (party one) the Department of Foreign Affairs and (party two) all representatives of the United Kingdom.
- These to be limited to correspondence that make reference to possible arrangements that would be made between the UK and Ireland in the case of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union
- These correspondence to be limited to a period between 1 July 2015 and 28 February 2016.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 10 March 2016.

I have reviewed your request and determined that the Department does not hold any records of correspondence falling within the scope of this request.

The Government continues to deepen its understanding and analysis of the impact of a possible UK exit from the EU. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, both at its headquarters in Dublin and through its diplomatic offices in London, Edinburgh, Northern Ireland, Brussels and elsewhere, is actively contributing to these efforts, which are coordinated across government by the Department of the Taoiseach.

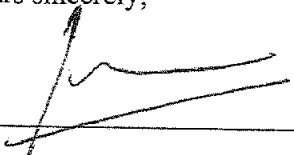
In case of interest, I might also draw your attention to the fact that in late 2015, the Department received a broader request under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held regarding the UK referendum on membership of the EU, the response to which is posted on the Department's website under reference **FoI Request 15/108**.

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@dfat.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@dfat.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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Devine', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ian Devine

30 March 2016