



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

Mr. Mark O'Regan  
Sunday Independent  
Independent House  
27-32 Talbot Street  
Dublin 1

Our Ref: Fol/Req/16/113

23 September, 2016

Dear Mr O'Regan,

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:

***'The name of each piece of artwork in the buildings of the Department of Foreign Affairs. This would include the original purchase price, the year it was bought, and the estimated current day value of each piece of artwork.'***

I am the responding officer and I have decided to grant you access to the records as outlined in the attached schedule. This information relates to the State Art collection (managed by the OPW) in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade located in Iveagh House, Harcourt Street, Clonmel Street, Hatch Street in Dublin and the offices of Irish Aid in Limerick. The Collection is essentially a visual art lending library. Many of the artworks currently in this Department may have been previously on loan to other Departments or other organisations and they may also circulate to other locations in the future.

In relation to your request for the estimated current day value of each artwork, artworks are valued for insurance purposes only when works are placed on loan to outside exhibitions. Due to the scale and diverse nature of the State Art Collection, commercial valuations are not undertaken.

Therefore this part of your request falls for refusal under Section 15 (1)(a) of the FOI Act, that is, because "the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken. "

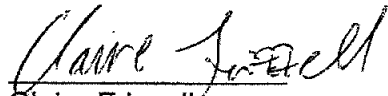
### **Right of Appeal**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 cursive script that reads "Claire Frizzell".

Claire Frizzell

Architectural Services Unit  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade