



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála

Oifig na bPasanna, Teach Knockmaun, 42-47 Sráid an Mhóta Íochtarach,
Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 TN83

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Passport Office, Knockmaun House, 42-47 Mount Street Lower, Dublin 2 D02 TN83

Our Ref: FoI/Req/16/212

Elaine Edwards
The Irish Times
24-28 Tara Street
Dublin 2

3 March 2017

Dear Ms Edwards,

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:

- 1. A copy of the memorandum of agreement between the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Foreign Affairs underpinning the sharing of passport information with DSP.*
- 2. All correspondence with the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in November and December 2016 regarding the sharing of passport data.'*

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 29 December 2016.

I have identified no records that fall within the scope of your request, as no current memorandum of agreement is in place between the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Foreign Affairs. Likewise, there is no correspondence between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Social Protection and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in November and December 2016 regarding the sharing of passport data.

As the records which you have requested do not exist, I must refuse your request under Section 15 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, '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. 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



Jane McCulloch
Head of Integrity
Passport Service