

Non-personal FOI requests answered in January 2024

CASE NUMBER	DATE RECEIVED	REQUESTOR TYPE	REQUEST	DECISION
FOI/Req/23/259	28/11/2023	Other	<p>1. Internal departmental correspondence in relation to Parliamentary question 50300/23 from Patrick Costello here (below) “Deputy Patrick Costello asked the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if his Department is carrying out checks at Shannon Airport on US military vehicles which are stopping off enroute to Israel and other jurisdictions; if so, the number that have taken place in the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [50300/23]”</p> <p>2. Internal departmental correspondence in relation to Parliamentary question 50512/23 from Matt Carthy here (below) “Deputy Matt Carthy asked the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the steps he has taken to ensure that military aircraft of foreign states landing in Ireland or overflights in sovereign Irish airspace are unarmed, carry no arms, ammunition or explosives and do not engage in intelligence gathering or form part of military exercises or operations; and whether there has been any review of the oversight of these matters in the context of the Israeli military assaults on Gaza. [50512/23]”</p> <p>3. Any documents related to any consultation between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Transport and/or the Department of Justice to determine if there are foreign policy or security considerations to take into account for the five most recent requests for exemptions in respect of munitions of war as indicated by the Minister here (below) “I have addressed the wider issues relating to Ireland’s approach to the current crisis in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory on frequent occasions over recent weeks so I will focus my response on issues relating to diplomatic clearance for military aircraft. Under the terms of the Air Navigation (Foreign Military Aircraft) Order, 1952, all foreign military aircraft wishing to overfly, or land in, the State require diplomatic clearance from the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Diplomatic clearance is subject to strict conditions, including that the aircraft is unarmed; that it carries no arms, ammunition or explosives; that it does not engage in intelligence gathering; and that the flight in question does not form part of a military exercise or operation. This policy is well known and is fully understood by the United States and other international partners, and is done in compliance with Ireland’s traditional policy of military neutrality. With regard to the transit of US military aircraft through Shannon and other Irish airports, the Department of Foreign Affairs publishes statistics in relation to overflights and landings of foreign military and state aircraft on the Department’s website. This includes details on the</p>	Part Granted

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			number of US military aircraft that have landed in Shannon airport this year. My Department is committed to the highest standards of transparency and, as such, will continue to publish details relating to overflights and landings on a monthly basis on the Department's website, as well as working to compile and publish historic data relating to overflights and landing of foreign military aircraft where and when possible."	
FOI/Req/23/264	01/12/2023	Other	Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 I am seeking a list of esubmissions submitted to the Minister for Foreign Affairs through the e-submissions channel. I wish for my request to cover the period from 01-11-2023 - 30-11-2023.	Granted
FOI/Req/23/272	11/12/2023	Other	Under the FOI Act 2014, I am writing to foi@dfa.ie seeking the following; all available records held by Dept. of Foreign Affairs from month November 2023 to December 09/12/2023, including e-mail relating to flights in Ireland of two aircraft REG: 86-0014 REG ZP805	Refused
FOI/Req/23/273	12/12/2023	Media	I am writing to you under the FOI Act 2014 to request the following information from the Department of Foreign Affairs. Please may you provide me with: The total number of sick days taken by civil servants in your department (including when it was known as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) in each year from 2010 to 2023 (or as far back as your records go) inclusive (2023 including sick days taken in the year to date). Please provide the information in the form of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with the year down the side and the number of sick days in the corresponding cell.	Granted
FOI/Req/23/274	12/12/2023	Other	I wish to request the following information from the Department of Foreign Affairs under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. The rate/percentage increase in pay for each of our diplomatic missions for each year over the past five years.	Granted

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FOI/Req/23/279	13/12/2023	Media	I wish to receive copies of the following records under the FOI Act for the following records related to the use of Micheal Martin's name and image in scam adverts to cover the period 1 October 2023-present. • Copies of any memos, briefing documents or other reports on the scam adverts using Mr Martin's name and image. Prepared by departmental staff, ministerial advisory team, and/or by Fianna Fail and shared with departmental staff, ministerial advisory team and/or the Minister • Any communication between Ministerial advisory staff and/or departmental staff and Fianna Fail staff or members about scam adverts using Mr Martin's name and image. Please include attachments.	Refused
FOI/Req/23/280	18/12/2023	Media	Internal records and correspondence related to the decision to purchase 2221 30th Street as the new Washington ambassador's residence, between 1st September and 18th December 2023.	Part Granted
FOI/Req/23/281	19/12/2023	Other	Please provide the lowest and highest rent reimbursement payment made in Belgium and the total number of officers in receipt in 2023. Please also provide the total paid in rent reimbursement payments in Belgium for year ending 31 December 2023.	Granted
FOI/Req/23/282	21/12/2023	Media	Under the 2014 FOI Act, I'm seeking the following records: • All communications and documentation since June 2023 held by the DFA related to a virtual meeting which took place between An Taoiseach and a purported diplomat from the African Union Commission	Part Granted
FOI/Req/23/284	29/12/2023	Media	Under the FOI Act 2014, I am seeking the following: - a copy of any valuation reports associated with the department's purchase of 2221 30th Street in Washington DC. - a copy of the business case associated with the above purchase. - a copy of any briefing documents or submissions prepared for the minister with regard to the above purchase.	Part Granted
FOI/Req/23/285	29/12/2023	Other	Under the freedom of information act 2014 ,the record I am looking for is the payment made by the GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND to UNIDROIT for the copyright usage of the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) per year. The timeline I'm looking for is the current year 2023 if possible but if not 2022 would be fine.	Granted

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FOI/Req/24/001	02/01/2024	Media	<p>I wish to make a request under the FOI Act for access to –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. any submission(s) your organisation made to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to that Department's review of the FOI Acts, 2. Any record which is an analysis* of FOI requests received in your organisation in 2022, and 3. Any record which is an analysis* of FOI requests received in your organisation in 2023. <p>I recognise that the record mentioned at 3. above may not exist on 2 January, 2024. Please provide either an analysis (if it exists) or requests received up to 30 November 2023, or (preferably) delay processing of this part of my request until an analysis of the complete year exists.</p> <p>*An analysis might include any of the following data –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of requests received, granted, part granted or refused, • number of requests per section of your organisation, • number of requests by topic, • number of requests by requester (anonymised), • number of requests by category of requester (e.g. individual, journalist, lobby group, etc.), • number of requests withdrawn, • number of requests which attracted fees, • total amount of fees paid, • number of time extensions applied, • number of internal reviews, • number of appeals to Information Commissioner 	Granted
FOI/Req/24/003	02/01/2024	Media	<p>Under the FOI Act 2014, I am seeking the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Details of the number of data breaches involving DFA and/or the Passport Service for the calendar years 2022 and 2023. - A brief line description of each data breach involved, its location in the country, and the outcome/result of it. 	Granted

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FOI/Req/24/004	03/01/2024	Other	<p>I request a copy of all correspondence and related documents (e.g. email attachments) between department officials, including but not limited to Patricia O’Brien, currently the Irish Ambassador to Italy, and the International Olympic Committee (based in Lausanne, Switzerland), from February 24th, 2022 until the moment the FOI request is fulfilled. Under "International Olympic Committee" (IOC), I include all individual IOC officials/employees, group email addresses and the members of the IOC's Ethics Commission. A full list of members can be found here: https://olympics.com/ioc/ethics-commission I'm making this request in my capacity as a journalist for newsgathering purposes, and therefore would appreciate a waiver of any fees pertaining to the request, as any information disclosed would be in the public interest.</p>	Refused
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