

FOI Disclosure Log

Quarter 4 2019

Case ID	Requester Type	Request	Decision
19-230	Journalist	All written requests to the Department for salaries (in respect of persons with salaries above €80,000) in excess of agreed rates, relocation expenses, car allowances, bonus payments or performance-related pay. This request to cover all such applications, which are made to the Dept., which would require sanction from Minister i.e. from other Dept. & State bodies and to include all communications to and from the Dept., and other bodies/Depts. related to the request. This request to cover only the period since my last such request. The original application letters, any reports/memos made internally on the application, submission that would have gone to Minister and response that issued. This request to cover only the period since my last such request. Copies of any correspondence between your Department and any other government Department relating to the appointment of new special advisers, where these new appointments were not made at the lowest point on the agreed salary scale. This request to cover only the period since my last such request.	Part Grant
19-231	Journalist	Copies of any updates on the project to the Office of Government Chief Information Officer.	Part Grant
19-232	Journalist	Copies of any records held referring or relating to the setting of a salary level for Niall Gleeson, the managing director of Irish Water. When considering the request, I would ask that close	Part Grant

		attention is paid to the following decision made by the Information Commissioner: https://www.oic.ie/decisions/right-to-know-clg-and-dep-5/index.xml	
19-233	Journalist	All records held by this department relating to the lobbying activities by Aughinish Alumina Limited on the EU ETS Phase IV as detailed in the recent lobbying returns. These activities were directed to the Assistant Secretary at the Department of the Taoiseach, the Minister of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment and the Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. This request for records is to include, but not limit to: Minutes of the meetings between Aughinish Alumina Limited and members of this department as listed on the lobby returns. Correspondence from the company including the letter listed on the most recent lobbying returns. Notes or memos in relation to discussions or telephone calls. https://www.lobbying.ie/return/51472/aughinish-alumina-limited	Refused
19-234	Journalist	All internal correspondence and minutes/agendas of meetings between DPER officials of level assistant principal and higher regarding the National Childcare Scheme and MyGovID, dated between 27th September 2019 and 7th October 2019. All correspondence and minutes/agendas of meetings between DPER officials of level assistant principal and higher and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs regarding the National Childcare Scheme and MyGovID, dated between 27th September 2019 and 7th October 2019. All briefing materials prepared for the Minister on the same subject over the same timeframe	Refused
19-235	Journalist	Briefing material prepared for bi-lateral meetings between the Minister for Education and/or Department of Education senior	Part Grant

		officials from assistant secretary upwards, and the Minister for Finance / Minister for Public Expenditure and /or Department officials from assistant secretary upwards, relating to Budget 2020 from June 2019 onwards.	
19-236	Journalist	A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the 2019 local elections. A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the 2019 European Parliament elections. A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the 2019 Divorce referendum. A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the 2018 Abortion referendum.	Grant
19-238	Member of the Public	I have been informed that you awarded on 19 September 2019 your Premises, Catering, Housekeeping, Security tender to Birch Rentals Ltd, and that four companies in total submitted bids for evaluation. Please could you supply the names and registration numbers (Companies House numbers) for all three of the unsuccessful companies, excluding any commercial details of the tender outcome?	Grant
19-239	Journalist	Copies of any correspondence between your Department and any other government Department relating to the appointment of new special advisers, where these new appointments were not made at the lowest point on the agreed salary scale. This request to cover only the period since my last such request.	Part Grant
19-240	Member of the Public	In respect of the period 1st January 2018 to date, with all records, in written or electronic format, concerning or any way related to the Case Management System of the Tax Appeals Commission. In the interest of clarity, this includes, but is not limited to, any records related to the procurement process for, purchase of, payment for, use of, the cessation of use of, and the write off of etc. the Case Management System. All records, in written or	Refused

		electronic format, concerning or any way related to the second Case Management System of the Tax Appeals Commission, also referred to as a temporary ICT Solution or temporary Case Management System. In the interest of clarity, this includes, but is not limited to, any records related to the procurement process for, purchase of, payment for, implementation of, and use of etc. the Case Management System.	
19-241	Member of the Public	All correspondence between the Department and the chair of the Oireachtas Climate Action Committee between the period 01 March 2019 and the present day. All correspondence between the Department and the chair of the Climate Change Advisory Council between the period 01 March 2019 and the present day. All correspondence between the Department and the Minister for Communications and Climate Action between the period 01 March 2019 and the present day.	Grant
19-242	Journalist	Copies of any correspondence between your Department and the Oireachtas related to the travel and accommodation allowance in period 30 November 2018 to date of receipt of this request. Copies of any records held relating to any discussion over size of the travel and accommodation allowance and whether it is sufficient given increases in the costs of accommodation in Dublin. This request to cover same time period as above.	Refused
19-243	Member of the Public	I request a copy of all correspondence, documents, business cases, and related records relating to the budget submissions for the Office of the Data Protection Commission in respect of Budget 2020. To narrow the timescale for searches, I ask for records between the 7th of September and the 7th of October.	Grant
19-244	Journalist	Copies of all correspondence between the Department and the Data Protection Commissioner relating to budgetary	Grant

		requirements for the DPC ahead of announcement of Budget 2020. Copies of any reports, submissions, memos, or other such review or explanatory documents outlining the financial and/or staffing requirements of the DPC ahead of announcement of Budget 2020.	
19-245	Member of the Public	All records relating to funding allocated to the Data Protection Commission in Budget 2020.	Grant
19-246	Journalist	All submissions / memos / briefing documents prepared or submitted to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to the Housing Assistance Payment.	Withdrawn
19-247	Journalist	The amount of money spent across your department on hosting Christmas parties between November and December 2018. The items that were presented by your department to state, semi-state and foreign bodies as Christmas gifts between November and December 2018.	Refused
19-248	Member of the Public	Correspondence regarding Capital projects only in respect of Budget 2020 and in the timeframe of 1 June 2019 up to Budget day 8 October 2019 between officials from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and officials at the grade of APO and above in the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Correspondence regarding Capital projects only in respect of Budget 2020 and in the timeframe of 1 June 2019 up to Budget day 8 October 2019 between officials from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and officials at the grade of APO and above in the Department of Justice and Equality. Correspondence regarding Capital projects only in respect of Budget 2020 and in the timeframe of 1 June 2019 up to Budget day 8 October 2019 between officials from Department of Public Expenditure and	Part Grant

		Reform and officials at the grade of APO and above in the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.	
19-249	Journalist	<p>Copies of any correspondence (including letters or emails) between Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe or the secretary general of the Department of Finance and following, Minister for Business Heather Humphreys and the Secretary General of the Department of Business. Minister for Agriculture Michael Creed or the Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture, Minister for Transport Shane Ross or the Secretary General of the Department of Transport, on the subject of Budget 2020 measures to prepare for Brexit.</p> <p>Copies of any deliberative documents or briefing materials prepared for Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe on the subject of the Budget 2020 measures to prepare for Brexit.</p>	Refused
19-250	Journalist	A copy of any analysis of the business case for the upgrade of the N5 Westport to Turlough road and related correspondence with other government departments and agencies.	Part Grant
19-251	Member of the Public	All correspondence and expense documentation, including an itemised list of expenditures relating to independent contractors that have been employed to work on the Financial Management Shared Services project since the project first began in 2016. All correspondence and expense documentation, including an itemised list of expenditures relating to contractors that have been employed to work on the Financial Management Shared Services project since the project first began in 2016. All correspondence and expense documentation, including an itemised list of expenditures relating to commercial contractors	Handled Outside

		that have been employed to work on the Financial Management Shared Services project since the project first began in 2016. All correspondence and expense documentation, including an itemised list of expenditures relating to people employed to work on the Financial Management Shared Services that are not employees of the civil service since the project first began in 2016.	
19-253	Journalist	Copies of any records held referring or relating to whether ministers in the current government (who also happen to be Independent TDs) should be entitled to claim the parliamentary activities allowance. This request to cover the period 1 January 2018 to date of receipt of the request.	Refused
19-254	Member of the Public	All documents, emails, memos, circulars and letters concerning Mr Paul Quinn, former Chief Procurement officer for the State, to the Minister for Health, the Minister for Finance and the Taoiseach regarding cost overruns at the new National Children's Hospital.	Part Grant
19-255	Journalist	Request the travel expenses, and what travel they relate to, for the years 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019 so far for the Waterford TDs - John Halligan, Mary Butler, David Cullinane and John Deasy.	Handled Outside
19-256	Journalist	Copies of any deliberative documents or briefing materials prepared for Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe on the subject of the Budget 2020 measures to prepare for Brexit.	Refused
19-257	Member of the Public	All correspondence between the Minister for Finance/PER and Fine Gael TDs between the period 01 July 2019 and 31 July 2019. (Subject matter is Climate Change)	Grant

19-258	Journalist	All records related to this entry in the lobbying database: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/51544/american-chamber-of-commerce-ireland	Handled Outside
19-259	Journalist	All records related to this entry in the lobbying database: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/50251/amazon-web-services	Grant
19-260	Journalist	All correspondence between DPER and the Department of Employment and Social Protection regarding the appointment and determination of the salary for the special adviser to the Minister for Employment and Social Protection between the period 01 July 2018 and 31 December 2018 inclusive.	Grant
19-261	Journalist	Copies of all records held in the Central Policy Unit relating to the imposition of search and retrieval fees for FOI requests. This request to cover the period 1 May 2019 to the date of the receipt of the request.	Part Grant
19-262	Journalist	Copies of any briefings or submissions prepared for Minister Donohoe with regard to the Public Service Pay Commission report on remuneration for senior civil servants and other high-level appointees.	Refused
19-264	Member of the Public	All correspondence to/from the Department/Ministers and the following politicians between June 14, 2017 and November 4, 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny • Former Finance Minister Michael Noonan The correspondence could include letters/emails directly to ministers or the Department Secretary General as well as representations made on behalf of constituents.	Part Grant
19-265	Journalist	Copies of any records held referring or relating to the possibility of reform or change to a special system of top-up expenses that	Refused

		applies to TDs & Senators when on certain types of overseas travel. This request to cover period 1 January 2017 to date of receipt of the request. For ease of reference, it is the system discussed in the following article: https://www.rte.ie/news/investigations-unit/2015/0116/673121-department-refuses-to-reform-special-bonus-expense-system/	
19-266	Member of the Public	A list of submissions submitted to the Minister through the e-submission channel. I wish for my request to cover the period from 1/10/2019 –4/11/2019	Part Grant
19-267	Member of the Public	Warrant of Appointment, signed and sealed by President Higgins and yourself	Handled Outside
19-268	Member of the Public	The full Euro amount costs of the bellow contract between the Irish State/An Garda Síochána and Honda Distributors Two Wheels Ltd. Q1. Full Cost to the state for original contract from: 09/06/2015 to 09/06/2016. Either declared in the contact or calculated during or after the contracts end. Q2. Full Cost to the state for the 1 year contract extension from 09/06/2016 to 09/06/2017. Either declared in the contract or calculated during or after contracts end.	Handled Outside
19-269	Member of the Public	Government Agency Awards Indexed to Service or Product Classification Codes for the last 12 fiscal years	Handled Outside
19-270	Member of the Public	In the context of contract notice reference number FMB064F to establish single supplier Framework contracts, please advise as to the date and place of publication of the related PIN, .if any such Notice was in fact published, please furnish a copy of said PIN.	Withdrawn

19-272	Member of the Public	Please supply the contact details for the audit and evaluation team in DPER that complaints about the SEUPB can be submitted to for immediate audit and evaluation.	Withdrawn
19-273	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All correspondence sent by the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to demographic costs for 2020 since April 2019. All correspondence sent by the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform or the Secretary General of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to demographic costs for 2020 since April 2019. All correspondence sent by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform or Secretary General of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform to the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service in relation to demographic costs for 2020 since April 2019.	Part Grant
19-274	Journalist	Could you send us electronic copies of the IDWG agendas and minutes from December 2015 to date	Handled Outside
19-275	Member of the Public	A copy of the minutes of all meetings, departmental memos, internal correspondence and legal advice received from the Office of the Attorney General relating to the constitutionality of Section 52 of the Public Services Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. A copy of the minutes of all meetings, departmental memos, internal correspondence and legal advice received from the Office of the Attorney General relating to the successful application by Senator Gerard Craughwell on behalf of teachers, currently sitting as Oireachtas members, to be granted an exemption from the provisions of Section 52 of the Act and not being abated.	Refused

19-276	Journalist	Any correspondence/briefings/memos relating to potential delays or postponements of projects as a result of cost overruns such as those in the National Children's Hospital or the National Broadband plan for the past two years. The minutes of any meetings relating to any potential delays or postponements of projects as a result of cost overruns such as those in the National Children's Hospital or the National Broadband plan for the past two years. Any audits/evaluations of cost effectiveness, viability or benefits of capital projects that could potentially be affected by cost overruns such as those in the National Children's Hospital or the National Broadband plan for the past two years. Any correspondence/briefings/memos/minutes of meetings relating to possible cost overruns for Any capital projects other than the National Children's Hospital or the National Broadband plan for the past two years.	Refused
19-277	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All invoices in relation to spending on make-up, cosmetics and hair styling (to include both products and services) by the Department in 2019.	Refused
19-278	Journalist	Copy of correspondence between the secretary general of the Department of Health and the secretary general of the DPER since 01 September 2019.	Part Grant
19-279	Member of the Public	Records concerning the granting to Dublin Cemeteries Committee/Glasnevin Trust of several million Euros of public moneys around 2006/7. Specifically I am interested in records relevant to ;the decision to award the grant of moneys, the extent of the grant, the scope of the grant, conditions attaching to the grant and scrutiny of the compliance by the recipient with such conditions	Grant

19-280	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All invoices in relation to external consultancy services procured by the Department in 2019.	Refused
19-281	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All invoices related to spending by the Department between January 1st 2019 and the present date on, advertisement in the print media, national radio stations, local radio stations and national TV; advertisement in print media, on television stations or national radio stations that are located outside of the country; and advertisement on social media platforms.	Part Grant
19-282	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All invoices associated with official entertainment and promotional events hosted by the Department (such as policy launches, media briefings, receptions by the Minister) in 2019 including but not limited to: catering, entertainment, flowers, transport, audio-visual services, printed materials, drinks, and room hire.	Handled Outside
19-283	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All invoices in relation to spending on social media training and social media services provided to the Minister and Ministerial staff in 2019; All invoices in relation to spending on social media training and social media services provided to the Department in 2019	Handled Outside
19-284	Member of the Public	A list of all payments made on your behalf to any supplier in a currency other than the Euro, for the first three quarters of this calendar year. Showing the currency paid, the amount paid, a brief description of what was being procured, the bank/FX payment provider who processed the transaction, the cost of the transaction (the cost of the foreign currency in Euro's) , the cost of any additional bank charges. A list of all receipts in a foreign currency other than the Euro, charged by you to any customer.	Grant

19-285	Journalist	Copies of any records held in the Central Policy Unit of the department referring or relating to the issue of "private papers" and its use for exempting material under the FOI Act. This request to cover the period 1 January 2019 to the date of receipt of this request.	Part Grant
19-286	Journalist	Any correspondence between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Houses of the Oireachtas between 1 June 2019 and the present date on any proposals to change the Dáil's voting regime, the "fobbing in system" and the system of claiming expenses.	Refused
19-287	Member of the Public	Any document that shows that the Minister or the CSSO complied with government (1) Public Procurement Guidelines and 1 (laws) to purchase the services of stenographers in 2012. Any document that the Minister or the CSSO complied with government Public Procurement Guidelines to purchase the services of banks used to pay for the services. {The CSSO was unable to do this in 2012}. Any document that the Minister for Education and Skills or the CSSO complied with government Public Procurement Guidelines to purchase the services of banks used to pay for the services. {The CSSO was unable to do this in 2012}. A copy of the electronic copy of the six days of transcripts for the Judicial Review took place in the High Court in a case called Student Transport Scheme Limited v The Minister for Education and Skills in July 2012.	Refused
19-288	Journalist	The number of men and women employed by the department in each of the following salary bands. Please state how many workers in each category are part-time? Employees will be assumed to be full time otherwise. €0-24,999, €25,000-49,999, €50,000-74,999, €75,000-99,999, €100,000-124,999, €125,000-149,999, €150,000-174,999,	Withdrawn

		€175,000-199,999, €200,000-€224,999, €225,000- 249,999, €250,000-274,999, €275,000-€299,999, €300,000 and above	
19-290	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All PowerPoints and briefing material provided to Departmental Staff during training sessions in relation to handling FOI requests.	Part Grant
19-291	Oireachtas/Elected Representative	All correspondence, notes from meetings, and briefing documents in relation to rationale for and background to the Department's decision to introduce FOI training for departments and other entities covered by Freedom of Information requests.	Withdrawn
19-292	Member of the Public	A freedom of information request regarding the creation of the 2012 Hybrid Pension Scheme of the Irish Aviation Authority. Section 41(1) of the IAA act requires the company to submit any new pension schemes for ministerial approval by the minister for public expenditure. However we cannot find any evidence that this was done, hence this request. I am looking for correspondence between the company and the department and the minister on this matter, and the order signed by the minister at that time. Furthermore this scheme had its trust deeds amended by the company in 2013. I am not sure if this requires a ministerial order but if information was available relating to this change I would like to see it.	Refused
19-293	Member of the Public	Information on the total cost of hosting the four Dáil by-elections in November 2019, with a full breakdown, to include (but not confined to): the cost of renting the count centres in each location, the cost of holding the ballots, the cost of hiring the polling centres, the cost of the counting process (i.e., staff costs), a breakdown of the costs payable (per hour) to count staff, polling centre staff, etc. I would like a breakdown by by-election in all cases.	Withdrawn

19-295	Journalist	Copies of all records held in the minister's office relating to the decision to appoint Mr Peter Tyndall for a second term as Ombudsman and Information Commissioner.	Part Grant
19-296	Member of the Public	The numbers of Principal Officers appointed in your Department between January 2018 and November 2019. The numbers of Principal Officers appointed in your Department between January 2018 and November 2019 that were appointed from internal panels. The numbers of Principal Officers appointed in your Department between January 2018 and November 2019 that were appointed from the PAS Open Principal Officer Panel. The numbers of Principal Officers appointed in your Department between January 2018 and November 2019 that were appointed from the PAS Open Principal Officer Higher Panel.	Grant
19-297	Journalist	Copies of any correspondence between the department and the Office of the Ombudsman and/or Office of the Information Commissioner relating to budget allocations for the office in Budget 2020.	Grant
19-298	Journalist	Copies of any briefings, submissions, reports, or other such review or explanatory documents prepared for either the minister or the Secretary General relating to the new public spending code.	Part Grant
19-299	Journalist	All correspondence between the Department and PLI in relation to unclaimed lottery prizes since the start of 2015. I also wish to request access to any reports / memos compiled by the Department in relation to the issue during the same time period	Part Grant
19-300	Member of the Public	Is mian liom iarratas a dhéanamh faoin Acht um Saorála Faisnéise ar aon chomhfhreagras nó doiciméad eile a bhaineann le foilsiú nó dréachtú Bille na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú), 2019, ón 1	Refused

		<p>Bealtaine 2017 go dáta.</p> <p><i>Under the Freedom of Information Act i wish to make an application for any correspondence or other documents relating to the publication or drafting of the Official Languages (Amendment) Bill, 2019, from 1 May 2017 to date.</i></p>	
19-301	Member of the Public	<p>Is mian liom iarratas a dhéanamh faoin Acht um Saorála Faisnéise ar aon chomhfhreagras nó cáipéisí idir an Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta agus an Roinn Airgeadais, maidir le buiséad 2020, ag áireamh aighneacht réamhbhuiséid na Roinne Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta.</p> <p><i>I wish to make an application under the Freedom of Information Act for any correspondence or documents between the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the Department of Finance, regarding the 2020 budget, including the Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht's pre-budget submission.</i></p>	Part Grant
19-302	Journalist	<p>Copies of the submissions for Minister Donohoe for Budget 2020 where they relate to the following issue: free GP care for under 8s.</p>	Part Grant
19-303	Journalist	<p>I am seeking copies of all correspondence between the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection and the Department of Expenditure and Public Reform on the contents of the forthcoming National Inclusion Strategy and any concerns about when or whether it should be published, from 1st January 2019 to 24th December 2019. The correspondence should include emails and their attachments, letters, memos, telephone conversation minutes and meetings' minutes. For guidance, the reason for my request is the delay in the strategy's publication and a concern voiced to me that there may be disagreement</p>	Part Grant

		between the Departments on aspects of the strategy – thus delaying its publication.	
19-304	Journalist	All records relating to a meeting held between Min Donohue and Irish Ferry Companies on 22nd Oct this year.	Part Grant
19-305	Member of the Public	<p>Data on the total Irish cohort of special advisers from 1973-2019. I see the department publishes the names of the current cohort and their pay levels (July 2019). However, longitudinal data from 1973, the origins of the Irish special adviser experiment, will provide insights to how Irish cabinet ministers are supported, as well as other useful social and political metrics.</p> <p>Ideally, I would welcome data on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The total number of special advisers employed annually from 1973-2019 (as an example, see screenshot below of UK special advisers) 2. Annual breakdown which identifies to which minister each special adviser was employed (see example from Denmark in 'attachment 3 guided translation') 3. Names of every adviser since 1973 (which will help to identify the gender distribution of the adviser cohort and their post adviser career) 	Handled Outside