

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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/

Date 10 November 2017

Dear Mr Coughlan,

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:

'... for copies of correspondence or other communication between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the European Movement Ireland concerning the holding of a meeting or conference by the latter body at Iveagh House on 21 April this year, and any other information/documentation that you may be able to give me regarding the use of Iveagh House for meetings or conference by this or other private non-statutory bodies during 2016 and 2017.'

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 2 November 2017.

I have identified 7 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 7 of the records.

In your letter, you also request information on the use of Iveagh House for meetings or conferences by 'private, non-statutory bodies' and the circumstances under which external organisations may use the facilities of Iveagh House. A limited number of such events take place. To be considered, such events must be consistent with the Department's values and strategic priorities and contribute to the realisation of Government objectives in the area of foreign policy. Any decisions in relation to such events are subject to considerations around the availability of resources, security implications and internal capacity. Costs incurred must be borne by the organisers.

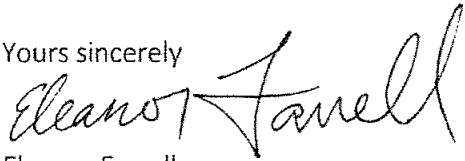
Further to your request as outlined above, a list of events hosted by non-statutory bodies that took place in Iveagh House in 2016 and 2017 is listed in annex to this letter.

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@dfa.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@dfa.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 that reads "Eleanor Farrell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E".

Eleanor Farrell
