



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 DN02 TN83

2nd February, 2017.

Ms. Sarah Burns
Daily Mail
3rd Floor
Embassy House
Herbert Park Lane
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

Re: FOI request refusing request FOI/Req/2017/022

Dear Ms. Burns,

I refer to your request dated 24th January 2017 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, which was received on 26th January for records held by the Passport Service. Your request sought:

- a) The amount paid out on overtime annually for 2016 and to how many staff, as well as the grade of this staff (salary or wage).*
- b) The amount spent on overtime already this year and any estimates that may be available for 2017.*

You will wish to be aware that Section 15 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 provides for the refusal of a request on administrative grounds; s15(d) makes provision specifically for the refusal of a request on the basis that this information is already in the public domain. This information was released to the media in December 2016 and can be viewed on <http://www.independent.ie/business/brexit/brexit-overtime-boost-for-passport-staff-35333004.html>

In relation to your request for information on overtime, the Passport Service has not incurred any expenditure on overtime so far this year. As I do not have information on projected expenditure for overtime for 2017, I must also refuse this request under Section 15(1)(a) for reasons that this information does not exist.

3. Rights of appeal

If you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal it. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76 – 78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2. You should make your appeal within 4 weeks from the date of this notification, where a day is defined as a working day excluding, the weekend and public holidays. 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 the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Yours sincerely,



Teresa McHugh
Passport Service