



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Our Ref: FOI/Req/17/215

21 November 2017

Pamela Duncan
The Guardian
Kings Place,
90 York Way,
London N1 9GU

Dear Ms Duncan,

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:

“all correspondence between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the UK Electoral Commission relating to the Constitutional Research Council / CRC and / or its activities and / or its officers / directors. Please limit your search for relevant material from 1 June 2016 to present.”

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 3 November 2017.

As there are no records that match the above criteria, I have made a decision to refuse your request under section 15(1)a of the act, as follows:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where—

(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken

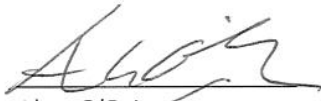
Right of Appeal

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@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, appearing to read 'Alan O'Brien', written over a horizontal line.

Alan O'Brien

Deputy Director – British-Irish Relations