

30/5/2017 Our Ref: FOI/Req/2017 /078 Eamonn Patterson

Dear Mr Patterson,

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:

Access to a record of the amount spent on economy and business class flights for each Mission in the years 2015, 2016 and to-date in 2017.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 15th May 2017.

All official travel undertaken by officers of the Department is in accordance with the central aims of the department's travel policy, which is based on the travel policy for all Government Departments laid down by the Department of Finance with the aim of achieving value for money for expenditure necessarily incurred consistent with the effective discharge of official duties. The table enclosed lists the cost of business and economy air travel incurred by each Mission in the years 2015, 2016 and year to date expenditure up to the 19th May 2017.

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@dfat.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@dfat.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

William Townsend