



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 D02 TN83

Our Ref: FOI/REQ/19/003.

William Burton.

29th January, 2019.

Dear Mr. Burton,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by the Passport Office, as follows:

- 1. How many Irish passports, since 2009, have been issued with the applicant requesting Londonderry as their place of birth.**
- 2. How many new Irish passport applications with an address in Co. Derry/Londonderry have been applied for since 23rd June 2016**

I also refer to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 11th January, 2019.

I am the Deciding Officer in this case.

In order to meet the requirements of the Passports Act 2008, each passport applicant must demonstrate their Irish citizenship with their application. Entitlement to Irish citizenship is governed by Irish law and in particular the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956, as amended.

Section 3 of the passport application form requires the applicant, if born in Ireland, to insert their county of birth or, if born abroad, to insert the name of the country in which they were born.

Applicants born in County Derry/Londonderry insert this county as their county of birth. The Passport Service does not record those born in the city of Derry/Londonderry separately from those born in County Derry/Londonderry.

All applicants born in County Derry/Londonderry will have their place of birth recorded on their passport as County Derry.

The number of passports issued since 2009 to applicants who have given their county of birth as County Derry or County Londonderry are as follows:

2009	12,480
2010	13,141
2011	11,777
2012	12,615
2013	12,791
2014	13,575
2015	15,284
2016	17,298
2017	18,863
2018	19,262

The Passport Office does not compile data on the postal address of applicants for passports. As a result we have no record on the number of applicants with an address in County Derry/Londonderry and therefore point 2 of your request falls for refusal under Section 15 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 which states that an FOI request may be refused if:

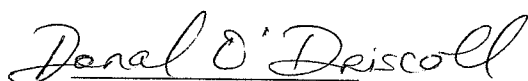
‘the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken’

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, D02 DX45 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,



Donal O'Driscoll
Passport Office.