

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/2019/183

Mr. Antoin Ó Lachtnain

27th June, 2019.

Dear Mr. Ó Lachtnain,

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:

Correspondence between other officials and any or all of the Passport Appeals Officers in relation to the requirement for the Public Services Card (or PSC) to be included in any passport application;

- -generally
- -in relation to any specific case

I also refer to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 7th June, 2019.

I am the Deciding Officer in this case. I have identified one case with 4 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to part-grant the 4 records.

Redactions were applied under Section 37 (1) to parts of the records. This section of the FOI Act 2014 states:

37.-1 Subject to this section, a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if, in the opinion of the head, access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information (including personal information relating to a deceased individual).

This Section provides for the protection of records containing personal information held by public bodies, against release to individuals other than the person to whom the information relates. All contents of a personal nature are therefore redacted in the records.

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 <u>foi@dfa.ie</u>. 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 <u>foi@dfa.ie</u>, 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.