



**An Roinn Gnóthaí
Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of
Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Our Ref: FOI/Req/19/237

06 September 2019

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I refer to the request which you have made by email on 31 July 2019 under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (the FOI Act), for the 15 May 2019 e-Submission entitled "Goal multi-annual funding".

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 8 August 2019.

Enclosed is the e-Submission requested. It has been redacted in parts, for the reasons stated below.

Basis for the Redactions

Section 29 FOI Act, relating to the Deliberations of FOI Bodies, provides that a head may refuse to grant an FOI request (a) if the record concerned contains matter relating to the deliberative processes of FOI body (including opinions, advice, recommendations, and the results of consultations, considered by the body, and (b) the granting of the request would, in the opinion of the head, be contrary to the public interest.

Further to the launch earlier this year of Ireland's new international development policy, *A Better World*, the Department is reviewing its approach to development programme and humanitarian funding. The current development and humanitarian funding stream are due to end in 2021. A small portion of the information contained within the record concerns ongoing deliberations relating to the possible design of a future multi-annual funding programme, rather than the funding application submitted by GOAL.

As it would be contrary to the public interest to disclose internal thinking on possible new approaches at this very early stage, this information has been redacted from the record under section 29 of the Act. When the new round of funding has been designed and launched, the release of this information will no longer be contrary to the public interest.

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



Claire Kerschensteiner

Civil Society and Development Education Unit, Development Cooperation and Africa Division