



An Roinn Gnóthai 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/2019/272

Mr. Cianan Brennan,
The Irish Examiner.

9th October, 2019.

Dear Mr. Brennan,

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 (both digital and other)/minutes of meetings between Department officials of level assistant principal and higher regarding the refusal of passport applications on foot of applicants not having a Public Services Card, dated between 1 August 2019 and the current date.

As you made your request on 11 September the “current date” in your request is deemed to be 11 September 2019.

I also refer to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 19th September.

I am the Deciding Officer in this case. I have identified 7 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant all 7 records.

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

37. (1) Subject to this section, a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if, on 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 this record.

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.

If you wish to, 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 staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely,


Donal O'Driscoll
Passport Service