



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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2019/361

14th January 2020

Dear Mr. Foxe,

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:

'Copies of all invoices associated with expenditure with the Dublin Airport Authority for enhanced passenger services at the airport in the period 1 January 2018 to the current date. Any such invoices where they relate to other Irish airports. A table of all costs associated with such enhanced/VIP services at any Irish airport during the same period.'

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 23rd December 2019.

I have identified 98 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 98 of the records. Under Section 37(1) personal information which is not in the public domain such as bank details and personal contact details may be excluded, therefore information relating to personal business details such as VAT numbers and bank account information have been redacted from these records. As these details do not have an impact on the substance of the information requested, I consider the request granted. Invoice 86 and 87 forms a part of the visit recorded in invoices 84 and 85 and are associated with the same lead VIP passenger. A passenger's name who was not the VIP was mistakenly recorded on invoices 86 and 87 as such has been redacted.

Record number 17 is an invoice which includes two separate items, one of which relates to the President. Under Section 42(h) the Act does not apply to records pertaining to the President, therefore such records do not fall for release. As such the invoice has been part redacted.

I also attach the table of all costs associated with enhanced/VIP services for 2018 and 2019 as per your request.

For the entry and departure of high-level visitors and representatives it is standard practice internationally to provide enhanced passenger services at the airport. This is a matter of courtesy and also to facilitate a secure and prompt entry and exit from the airport. The costs associated with providing these services differs from year to year and is subject to the varying

number of high-level representatives coming to Ireland, with a particularly high number visiting in 2018 and 2019.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire Thompson', written over a horizontal line.

Claire Thompson
Protocol Division