



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

13 April 2015

Mr Eamonn Patterson,

E-mail:

Our Ref: **FOI/Req/2015/031**

Dear Mr Patterson,

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:

A breakdown of EU Presidency travel by staff of the Department of Foreign Affairs and trade undertaken in 2013

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 20th March 2015.

I have identified the 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 of the records.

All official travel undertaken during Ireland's Presidency of the EU in 2013 was in accordance with the central aims of the Department's travel policy, which is based on the travel policy for all Government Departments laid down by the Department of Finance (Circular 11/82 and letter on foreign travel dated 31/3/98), which is to minimise official travel costs and to achieve value for money for expenditure necessarily incurred, consistency with the effective discharge of official duties.

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@dfat.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@dfat.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

Collette Appleby