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Our Ref: Fol/Req/15/119

15th January 2016

Mr. Eamonn Patterson

Dear Mr. Patterson,

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

“Details of all official functions for 25 or more guests held at the Irish Embassy in Canberra from 1st January 2015 to 8th December 2015. The information should include the title and purpose of function, date held, and number of invited guests and the total cost of those functions over the period in question.”

I have identified one record that falls within the scope of your request. The record is listed in the schedule below. I have made a decision to grant the record.

Record Description		Granted
1.	List of functions hosted at Embassy Canberra for 25 or more guests from 1 st January to 8 th December 2015	Granted

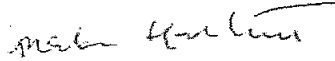
Representational activity plays a vital role in promoting Irish interests in Australia and is important in affording opportunities to put across effectively Ireland's position on a range of issues, in particular on the economy, bilateral relations and also on showcasing Irish music and culture. The Embassy incorporates to the fullest extent possible a range of representational activities which include business promotion, political meetings, media briefings and networking events.

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 the 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 making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a more senior member of staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Hartnett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Graham Hartnett
Embassy of Ireland
Canberra