



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Our Ref: FoI/Req/15/088
Mr. Martin Grant,
Irish Independent,
Independent House,
27-32 Talbot St.,
Dublin 1

Dear Mr. Grant,

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:

Documents which show the amount of money the department spent on the purchase of newspapers and magazines in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and up to date of this request. Also, please state the name and quantity of each publication which is delivered to the department on a daily basis.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 8th October 2015.

I have identified 2 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached: “Costs of headquarters print newspapers and magazines 2011-2015” and “List of daily print newspapers headquarters 30/9/2015”. I have made a decision to grant both records. The Department doesn’t receive daily magazines but the costs attached include magazines delivered on a weekly, monthly and quarterly basis including, for example, the Economist, Harvard Business Review and History Ireland.

The Department has a network of 80 Diplomatic and Consular and other offices. Missions abroad perform a wide range of functions in pursuit of Ireland’s foreign policy interests including representing and advancing government policies internationally in particular the EU and the UN; economic, trade and cultural promotion; frontline consular services; engaging with Irish communities; and programme management, particularly in Irish Aid priority countries. This work necessitates electronic access to the most up to date international and national news. In addition to the print costs, total expenditure on online news/magazine subscriptions was €72,426 in 2011, €99,204 in 2012, €106,110 in 2013, €113,342 in 2014 and €94,169 up to 30th September 2015.

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.




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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


Jill Corish