



**An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2**

**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2**

15 September 2016

Mr. Ken Foxe

Our Ref: FoI/Req//2016/126

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:

I am seeking copies of the invoices/receipts relating to the following lines of expenditure:

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 11/12/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) FARRELL BROTHERS (ARDEE) LTD €58,121.19

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 30/06/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) €28,300

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 30/06/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) €23,950

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 30/06/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) €22,350

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 19/10/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) €20,555.48

A6FURN FURNITURE & FITTINGS (value > €1,000 only) 30/06/2015 Architectural Services (Accommodation) €10,209

A2HOTEL HOTEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS 20/07/2015 Protocol GLENLO ABBEY HOTEL €5,752

A2HOTEL Hotel And Accommodation Costs 15/12/2015 Minister of State Bank Of Ireland Visa Business Cards €2,169.95

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 29 August 2016.

I am the deciding officer for your request. I have identified 8 records from our files that fall within the scope of your request. I have granted you access to all of these records. The records are listed in the attached schedule.

Records 1, 2,3,4,5 and 6 refer to the provision of furniture and fittings to the Passport Office in Cork and Missions in Jakarta, Zagreb and Vienna.

Record 7 relates to costs incurred in the State Visit to Ireland by the President of Germany. A State Visit is the highest level of official visit. Where possible, the visiting Head of State includes a programme in a venue outside of Dublin. During a State Visit, the Irish side cover some of the costs arising, including accommodation of the visiting Head of State and up to 15 members of the visiting delegation. This is in line with practices of many of our international partners. While in Dublin, the German President was a guest at Farmleigh House. In Galway, the Irish side covered accommodation at Glenlo Hotel of 15 rooms in respect of the German visitors (that is, the accommodation of the visiting President and the most senior members of his delegation), with three other rooms used to accommodate Irish officials accompanying the German President on the State Visit.

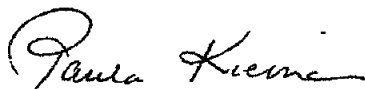
Record 8 relates to various official hotel bookings made on the official credit card held by the Private Secretary to the then Minister of State for Development, Trade Promotion and North-South Co-operation.

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



Paula Kiernan
Finance Division