



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

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2020/010

4 February 2020

Dear Mr. Corkery,

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:

All correspondence and briefing documents exchanged between the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and any officials in his Department above the grade of Principal Officer, and (1) the new European Commissioner, Ursula Von Der Leyen and (2) the new Trade Commissioner, Phil Hogan, since they were selected for their roles.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 15 January 2020.

Having conducted a search of the Department's records, I have not located any documents that fall within the scope of your request.

Therefore your request falls for refusal on administrative grounds under Section 15(1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act, as "the record concerned does not exist."

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



Eoin Lavelle
Third Secretary
Institutions and Coordination Unit
EU Division