



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

Our Ref: FoI/Req/2020/108

Date 03 July 2020

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:

- **Internal Audit of Embassy Beijing: Dec 2019**
- **Internal Audit of Embassy Bangkok: Dec 2019**
- **Internal Audit of Embassy Warsaw: June 2019**
- **Internal Audit of Embassy Lilongwe: May 2019**
- **Audit of the processes in place for Risk Management in DFAT: Feb 2019.**

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on June 10th, 2019.

I have listed relevant records in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant three of these records and partially grant two. Where access to listed information has been partially granted, the records have been exempted from release by virtue of the following sections of the Act; Section 29 - Deliberations of FOI Bodies.

Under Section 29 (1) (a) (b) of the Act (Deliberations of FOI Bodies), I have considered whether the public interest would be better served by releasing the record in question in terms of the right of the public to have access to information and the need for transparency in decision making processes. Given the nature of the record I am satisfied that its premature release would negatively impact ongoing internal discussions. On balance the public interest is best served by not releasing this record at this time.

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,

Leo Blake (Evaluation & Audit Unit)