

Our Ref: Fol/Req/20/155

24 August 2020

Dear Mr. Foxe,

I refer to the request dated 27 July 2020 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

- "details of any purchases of computer equipment, mobile equipment, tablets, laptops, any mobile or computer accessories, any electrical equipment or appliances on behalf of any minister or minister of state at your Department in period between 1 May 2020 and the current date"
- "copies of any requests for additional office space, furniture, decoration, or paintings by any officeholder, minister of minister of state at your Department in period as outlined above"
- "copies of the response that was issued in any such instance"
- "copies of any receipts or invoices associated with the above"

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 11 August 2020.

I have identified 5 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant all 5 records.

The Department of Foreign Affairs equips offices for the Minister and Ministers of State with the standard range of ICT services and office facilities generally available across the Department. Property Management Unit have been requested to provide office space for two Ministers of State and these have been accommodated in the same offices as their predecessors and by making available one additional office space previously occupied by a Departmental Official.

All offices for Minister and Ministers of State were furnished from existing furniture resources and equipped from existing ICT resources. Accordingly there are no receipts, invoices or purchase orders that fall under this FOI request.

Redactions:

Where after-hours mobile phone contact numbers featured in communication records these have been redacted. There are no other redactions in this FOI response.

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

Fergal O'Flaherty

Property Management Unit Department of Foreign Affairs,

No. 76-78 Harcourt St. Dublin 2 Email: fergal.oflaherty@dfa.ie