



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

Our Ref: FoI/Req/21/075

Date: 16 April 2021

Dear Ken 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:

- a copy of the invoices/receipts associated with the following transactions by the DFA. Should it prove convenient to provide an information note explaining these transactions, please feel free to include it in your response:

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 15/09/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 290852 407,327.5

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 27/04/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 280578 253,758.25

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 08/09/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 290029 237,444.59

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 10/07/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 285796 209,620.95

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 25/03/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 278253 157,758.33

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 15/10/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 291852 155,796.96

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 06/05/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 281721 138,822.3

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 14/08/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 287278 123,758.61

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 12/06/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 283894 117,600.39

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 09/11/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 294378 113,379.9

A6C Office Premises - Current Expenditure RENTED PREMISES - MAJOR MAINTENANCE ONLY 02/03/2020 I5202 Property Management Unit 276859 103,687.12

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 23/03/21.

I have identified 11 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 11 of the records. The bank details of the companies which sent the invoices, which appear not to be in the public domain, have been redacted from records 1,3,5,6,8 and 11. These redactions have no impact on the substance of the information contained in the records, so I consider your request granted in full.

Record 1 relates to the Irish Liaison Office to *Partnership for Peace in Brussels*. The amount shown represents Ireland's contribution towards the cost of a major building renovation project, and was shared equally with the Department of Defence.

Records 2 to 11 relate to the fit-out of new offices at our Missions in Vancouver, Wellington and Mumbai. In Mumbai we are opening an Ireland House with Enterprise Ireland and the IDA who shared the costs. These new missions were opened as part of the implementation of the Government's "Global Ireland" policy.

Global Ireland 2025 will support efforts to grow and diversify export markets, inward investment and tourism. It will ensure that Ireland is better positioned to build the alliances necessary to advance our interests and values globally. It will also enhance our ability to advocate for and achieve our foreign policy objectives, including international development, peace, disarmament and security, while strengthening Ireland's engagement with its 70 million-strong diaspora and bringing our rich culture and heritage to wider audiences.

The Embassy and Consular network is used by the Department, other government departments, state agencies and other organisations in promoting the state overseas. They consist of offices, meeting and event space which provide platforms for our Missions to promote Ireland's political, economic and cultural interests and values, provide services to our citizens, engaging with our diaspora, developing strategic stakeholder relationships and represent Ireland in international fora. The Department must ensure that security and health and safety standards are met as part of our duty of care to staff, their families and visitors to our buildings. The Department maintains appropriate health, safety and security in our Missions and relevant additional international standards depending on location.

All refurbishment and fitout at Missions are conducted in line with the Department's procurement obligations under Government public tendering and contracting rules, including both national and EU Public Procurement thresholds.

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, (€10 for medical card holders). A copy

of the medical card should be provided to avail of the reduced fee. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at foi@dfa.ie, or 01-4082618.

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

David Ormond