Department of the Taoiseach

List of non-personal Freedom of Information requests granted

Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2021/0335	The release of records relating to a query sent by the Department of An Taoiseach on 20 August to other departments about a roadmap for the easing or removal of Covid-19 restrictions by the end of August. For guidance, the query asked departments "What areas/sectors are still impacted by restrictions?", "What issues remain regarding provision of public services" and for guidance on "Any other matters you would like to bring to Government's attention".	Part granted	18/01/2022
FOI/2021/0379	I wish to request records in relation to minutes of meetings, internal and external correspondence and memos involving the Taoiseach or anyone above the grade of Clerical Officer in Roinn an Taoisigh from the period of 1 January 2021 until the present regarding Irish language commitments detailed in the New Decade, New Approach Deal.	Part granted	27/01/2022
FOI/2021/0381	1. All agendas relating to cabinet budgetary meetings on Budget 2017, from June 1, 2016 to October 12, 2016. 2. All budget memos and supporting documentation from the Department of Finance and Department of Public Expenditure and Reform for Budget 2017, from June 1, 2016 to October 12, 2016. 3. All observations on budget memos from ministers for Budget 2017, from June 1, 2016 to October 12, 2016.	Granted	04/01/2022
FOI/2021/0382	All correspondence received by Taoiseach's Department from Pfizer, Pfizer Europe, Pfizer Ireland and Pfizer's MD Paul Reid, dated between 1st September and 5 December 2021.	Part granted	05/01/2022
FOI/2021/0383	Under the FOI Act 2014, I am requesting the release of records, created since 1 December, concerning a decision to co-ordinate media appearances or statements by members of NPHET through the Government Information Service (GIS), specifically: • Any internal emails within GIS about this decision (such as informing GIS staff about new arrangements); • Any emails, WhatsApp messages or SMS text between GIS and staff at the Department of Health - including members of NPHET and the Dept of Health's press office - about this decision; this should include responses from Depart of Health staff and members of NPHET if any were forthcoming; • Any emails to GIS from members of the media requesting interviews with members of NPHET, and any internal GIS emails following-up on these requests (i.e. emails between GIS staff checking whether NPHET members had permission to appear on media) and responses to the relevant members of the media (i.e. arranging a media appearance or notification of unavailability). • Any memos created in relation to this decision.	Part granted	21/01/2022
FOI/2021/0384	I am requesting the release of any records created as part of an update given to the Taoiseach regarding the security of Irish electricity supplies on 29 July, including any emails, reports, or presentations.	Granted	20/01/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2021/0386	Requesting records relating to the number of staff hired at the Government Information Service, specifically: - The number of staff hired, per year since 2016 at GIS, broken down by grade; - The number of staff promoted, per year since 2016 at GIS, broken down by grade; - The number of staff to have left GIS, per year since 2016, broken down by grade; - The number of staff transferred internally from one section of GIS to another, per year since 2016, with a breakdown of which section of GIS staff were transferred from and to; - The number of staff hired by GIS, per year since 2016 and by grade, who left within one year of being hired.	Part granted	20/01/2022
FOI/2021/0389	I would like to request all records held in the Department of An Taoiseach in relation to correspondence received from/to the NYPD (New York Police Department) in the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 2020 and 2021, to include but not be limited to records showing: • All correspondence concerning Government/Department trips to New York received from or sent to the NYPD • All correspondence received from or sent to the NYPD following Taoiseach trips • All correspondence regarding behaviour of officials, staff, security, politicians, advisers or others before, during or after trips to New York received from or sent to the NYPD Records/correspondence to include, but not be limited to, all letters, emails, memos, WhatsApp messages or other electronic communications.	Granted	27/01/2022
FOI/2022/0001	Correspondence received and sent by the Taoiseach/Department of the Taoiseach in relation to blood donation policies in Ireland between 27 June 2020 and the present date; All records created by the Taoiseach/Department of the Taoiseach in relation to blood donation policies in Ireland between 27 June 2020 and the present date. I wish to note that I am not seeking any records relating to legal proceedings against the Government in respect of blood donation policies in Ireland.	Part granted	01/02/2022
FOI/2022/0004	I would be grateful to receive all records (written material, printed material, electronic material and all visual or non-visual material) for the period 01 July 2021 to date 12 January 2022 concerning the funding (approved, committed, budgeted, spent, incurred, prospective, withdrawn, unavailability of, policy) with respect to the proposed improvement of the N25 between Carrigtwohill and Midleton Co. Cork. This road is also known as the E30 (Cork to Moscow). The records include all the Taoiseach's records relating to the funding including the suspension or withdrawal of funding for the N25 improvement project together with the Department of the Taoiseach records whether created by the Department, its consultants, advisors or contractors including records of all communications howsoever described with the Minister and Department of Transport, the Minister and Department of Finance, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Cork County Council, and any public representatives whether Councillors, Teachtaí Dála, or Senators.	Granted	07/03/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0005	Copies of any records held referring or relating to a Rolex watch that was gifted to the Ceann Comhairle and subsequently handed over to the Department of the Taoiseach. This request to cover the period 1 February 2021 to date of receipt of the request.	Part granted	01/02/2022
FOI/2022/0007	Minutes of each of the meetings of the Climate Action Delivery Board in 2021	Granted	10/02/2022
FOI/2022/0008	This correspondence sent to the dept of Taoiseach and any responses (internal or external) about it https://www.lobbying.ie/return/77240/irish-pharmaceutical-healthcare-association Any internal correspondence sent or received by the people who the initial correspondence was sent to. This correspondence and any memos or follow up correspondence created as a result of the meeting: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/77266/irish-pharmaceutical-healthcare-association	Part granted	01/02/2022
FOI/2022/0010	Please disclose the following, both in terms of head count and full-time equivalent (FTE): 1. The number of communications staff. 2. A breakdown of these staff by job description and/or job title (e.g. number of press officers, heads of press office, directors of communications, social media staff, etc) and for each, their salary bands. If you are supplying this information on behalf of all government departments, please provide a breakdown of these details by each department.	Granted	03/02/2022
FOI/2022/0011	In accordance with section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I wish to request access to the following records/details: All correspondence between Pfizer and the Department of the Taoiseach mentioned in the following lobbying record - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/75288/pfizer Minutes from discussion between Pfizer CEO and An Taoiseach mentioned in the following lobbying record - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/75288/pfizer A separate lobbying filing by Pfizer also says the company sent material to the Department of the Taoiseach to "Provide information in relation to COVID-19 vaccine supply and manufacturing". I would like to also request the following records as listed below: All correspondence between Pfizer and the Department of the Taoiseach mentioned in the following lobbying record - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/75290/pfizer Minutes from discussion between Pfizer CEO and An Taoiseach mentioned in the following lobbying record - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/75290/pfizer	Part granted	10/02/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0012	Any documentation held by the Department in relation to the following: Submissions received by the following interest groups in relation to Remote Working/Working from Home: LVA Licensed Vintners Association; Retail Ireland; IBEC; Retail Excellence Ireland; Restaurants Association of Ireland; Dublin Chamber of Commerce; Dublin Town. Timeframe 01/03/2020 to present date	Part granted	01/02/2022
FOI/2022/0014	A copy of correspondences sent to the Taoiseach in relation to the introduction of minimum unit pricing on alcohol from July 1st 2021 to date.	Part granted	11/02/2022
FOI/2022/0016	Copies of all correspondence relating to the recruitment of a new DPP and the terms and conditions - including remuneration and pension package - to be offered for the job. The items of correspondence should include - but not be limited to - all items to/from the following individuals: * Taoiseach Micheál Martin * Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Michael McGrath * Former Minister for Justice Heather Humphreys * Minister for Justice Helen McEntee * Secretary General to the Government Martin Fraser * Secretary General of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform David Moloney * Secretary General of the Department of Justice Oonagh McPhillips I am also seeking a copy of the advertisement for the role of DPP and a copy of the Candidate Information Booklet for the role. The records can be limited to the time period 1/1/2021 to 17/1/2022. The records should include copies of any documents attached or enclosed with the correspondence.	Part granted	15/02/2022
FOI/2022/0017	All correspondence including emails, letters, briefing notes and text messages between Health Minister Stephen Donnelly and Taoiseach Micheal Martin regarding antigen tests from November 8th 2021 to January 17th 2022. A copy of all advice sent to the Taoiseach regarding the subsidising of antigen tests from November 8th to January 17th.	Part granted	17/02/2022
FOI/2022/0019	A database/spreadsheet/record/datadump listing the names/titles of each channel in use by the department on Slack, or any other such internal communication platform that is used at the department. When processing this request, I would ask you to refer to Section 17(4) of the FOI Act, which allows creation of a new record when the data can easily be gathered from electronic devices.	Granted	15/02/2022

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List of non-personal Freedom of Information requests granted

Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0021	Correspondence received and sent by the Tánaiste's office within the Department of the Taoiseach in relation to blood donation policies in Ireland between 27 June 2020 and the present date; All other records created or received by the Tánaiste's office within the Department of the Taoiseach in relation to blood donation policies in Ireland between 27 June 2020 and the present date. To assist in the search for the above records, I would recommend using the terms 'Irish Blood Transfusion Service' and 'blood donation' in the search.	Part granted	14/02/2022
FOI/2022/0023	Minutes of a meeting held between Taoiseach Micheál Martin and John Collison (President and Co-Founder of Stripe), Eileen O'Mara (EMEA GTM Lead) and Sam Hinton-Smith (Public Policy) which took place on 30 September 2021.	Granted	21/02/2022
FOI/2022/0024	I wish to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, access to any minutes / notes / emails relating to the meeting between An Taoiseach Micheál Martin and Stripe during 2021. Please also include any further correspondence between Stripe and the Department in 2021, including correspondence with Minister Fleming. Details of the meeting are here: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/81173/stripe	Granted	11/03/2022
FOI/2022/0026	Minutes of meeting between An Taoiseach and Abbott in relation to delays in planning processes. The meeting took place on Sep 16th 2021, per the lobbying register https://www.lobbying.ie/return/79193/abbott	Granted	17/02/2022
FOI/2022/0027	I wish to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, access to all correspondence between the Department and Benefacts during 2021 and to date in 2022. Please also include any memos / minutes of meetings with Patricia Quinn of Benefacts. Details of one such meeting are below: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/81711/benefacts	Part granted	04/03/2022
FOI/2022/0029	Any briefings, emails, notes and/or records relating to An Taoiseach's meeting with Janssen Sciences Ireland between 1st September and 31st December.	Part granted	24/02/2022
FOI/2022/0030	A copy of all representations received by the department relating to a 'champagne party' at the Dept of Foreign Affairs.	Part granted	04/03/2022
FOI/2022/0039	I'm seeking information on how many civil servants, including any and all advisers, employed by the Dept of the Taoiseach have the following qualifications, at third level, or equivalent, or higher: The sciences: chemistry / physics / biology, or variations of these Engineering - all types Business (including with another subject) Social sciences, e.g. politics or economics (including with another subject).	Part granted	08/03/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0040	All records, in the Department of An Taoiseach or relevant body, in relation to the appointment of Dr Catherine Day as Chair of the Citizens Assembly on Gender Equality the records to include the terms of reference for the Assembly.	Part granted	08/02/2022
FOI/2022/0041	All records created arising from meetings of the Cabinet sub-committee on Brexit, Foreign and European Affairs during 2016, specifically: all minutes or notes taken at the meetings of the sub-committee; any reports or memos prepared for the sub-committee; and any written correspondence issued by the sub-committee (all in 2016).	Part granted	11/03/2022
FOI/2022/0043	All agendas for Cabinet meetings from January to June 2016.	Granted	07/03/2022
FOI/2022/0044	A copy of the following list of gifts/high-value items kept by the Department of the Taoiseach.	Granted	08/03/2022
FOI/2022/0045	All records on the system of direct provision and asylum/refugee/migration issues. 'Records' relate only to cabinet papers, and not any communications from the public to the office of An Taoiseach. Assuming the Uimhir Thagartha is the same in 2017 as it had been for many years previous, this starts with: S/180/20 - the search can be restricted to records with this reference number. The time limit for this request is 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017.	Part granted	09/03/2022
FOI/2022/0047	1. As you may know, Klaus Schwab of the WEF recently stated that the WEF owns a lot of political leaders around the world. He mentioned some names e.g. Angela Merkel and Justin Trudeau, but not Micheál Martin. Is he owned by the WEF? Do you have records of communications between the Klaus Schwab and/or the WEF and Micheál Martin in relation to this? 2. Records of communications between Bill Gates and Micheál Martin in relation to the pandemic and subsequent vaccinations. 3. Records of communications between the WHO and Micheál Martin in relation to the pandemic and subsequent vaccinations 4. Records of communications between Micheál Martin and Tony Houlihan of NPHET in relation to mask wearing. To narrow this down, as I am sure they discuss them a lot, I am trying to establish whether Micheál Martin and/or Tony Houlihan have become pathological about mask wearing due to say, sexual gratification needs, membership of some secret society, possession by some demonic force, fear of retribution by the deep state, revelling in the ritual humiliation of the public etc. I am not interested in records regarding alleged transmissibility etc. Just records that would allow me to dig deeper into this fascinating psychological aspect. 5. Records in relation to the next variant and/or the next pandemic. Has Micheál Martin been informed about the next release date(s)?	Granted	09/03/2022
FOI/2022/0049	I am requesting the release of email correspondence sent by members of the public to the office of An Taoiseach since 15 January about the cost-of-living or inflation. If the request is too voluminous, I am happy to receive a random sample of 50 emails instead.	Part granted	11/03/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0050	1. All correspondence including emails, letters and briefing notes received by the Taoiseach regarding proposals to tackle the cost of living between January 1st and February 15th 2022. 2, All correspondence received by the Taoiseach regarding the impact of the cost of living between January 1st and February 15th 2022.	Part granted	11/03/2022
FOI/2022/0051	A record of correspondence to and from economic advisor Alan Aherne (Department of An Taoiseach) and representatives acting on behalf of Beakonshaw Limited, dated between September 1, 2021, and the date of this request. This should include a record of meetings, phone calls, text messages, emails, letters, memos, briefing documents and notes arising from contacts with Beakonshaw Limited representatives. This may also include correspondence from Ed Brophy, acting on behalf of Beakonshaw Limited.	Part granted	16/03/2022
FOI/2022/0053	A record of the minutes of meetings between Secretary General (Department of An Taoiseach) Martin Fraser and representatives of Irish Institutional Property (IIP), including IIP chief executive Pat Farrell dated between September 1, 2021 and the date of this request. This should also include a record of documents shared at the meetings; subsequent correspondence following the meetings between Mr Fraser's office and IIP; and, records of meeting notes from meetings between Mr Fraser and IIP.	Part granted	23/03/2022
FOI/2022/0055	All details/receipts of all expenses marked "other receipted expenses" in each of the monthly foreign travel reports published by the Department of the Taoiseach from 2019-2021.	Part granted	16/03/2022
FOI/2022/0057	All records, including correspondence (in private emails or messages or otherwise) on the use of the Steward's Lodge at Farmleigh during 2019, 2020 and 2021, to include details of use being made of lodge, attendees, events, costs of events, including hospitality, security, etc, and any breakdown or invoices associated, and any other arrangements. If it is necessary for any reason to redact any information, please redact the minimum necessary and send me the rest of the material, explaining the legal grounds for each redaction.	Granted	21/03/2022
FOI/2022/0059	All correspondence between Ruhama and Mr Leo Varadkar, Taoiseach and/or staff at the Department of the Taoiseach in the period 01 September 2019 to 01 July 2020; All correspondence between Ruhama and Mr Micheál Martin, Taoiseach and/or staff at the Department of the Taoiseach in the period 01 July 2020 to present.	Part granted	30/03/2022
FOI/2022/0060	- The agenda of the January 2022 meeting of the Climate Action Delivery Board - The minutes of the January 2022 meeting of the CADB - Any communication sent to members of the CADB to distribute the agenda or minutes of the January 2022 meeting - eg an email which the agenda/minutes were attached to - and any other documents attached to that communication.	Part granted	30/03/2022
FOI/2022/0064	Any briefings, emails, notes and/or records relating to An Taoiseach's meeting with Aspira on October 15.	Part granted	24/03/2022

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0065	The department costs related to paying companies outside of government to dispose of documents in 2020 and 2021, with a breakdown of each year.	Granted	24/03/2022
FOI/2022/0070	- Any internal briefings for the Taoiseach, and minutes of meetings attended by the Taoiseach, or department officials regarding the Citizens Assembly on Drugs - List of meetings including date and attendees attended by the Taoiseach, or department officials regarding the Citizens Assembly on Drugs - Minutes of meetings attended by the Taoiseach, or department officials regarding the Citizens Assembly on Drugs - Any other records that relate to the Citizens Assembly on Drugs.	Part granted	24/03/2022
FOI/2022/0072	Any briefings, emails, notes and/or records relating to An Taoiseach's meeting with the Nordic Baltic group in Brussels on December 16, 2021.	Part granted	22/03/2022
FOI/2022/0075	Q1. Number of IT devices in your organisation (Please differentiate the devices, for e.g. desktops, laptops, servers, etc). Q2 Is your organisation planning to procure IT devices in any FY period starting from 2022 till the end of 2025. If yes, please list out the devices and their spend or budget (allocated/indicative) along with a mention of the specific financial year. Q3 Is your organisation planning to procure any IT Software applications. If yes, can you please list out the names of software applications and their spend or the month/year of procurement.	Part granted	15/03/2022