Department of the Taoiseach

List of non-personal Freedom of Information requests granted

Quarter 1 2023

Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0318	A. All records hele by the Department in relation to events during the period 1 January 2022 to 24 February 2022 concerning potential challenges and/or issues faced by the aviation and aviation finance industries as a result of the prospect of armed conflict or hostilities between Russia and Ukraine, including (but not limited to) the potential imposition of sanctions on Russia; Between any Senior Official(s) and: i. AerCap Holdings NV or parties on behalf of AerCap Holdings NV or on behalf of its affiliates. ii. Aircraft Leasing Ireland or parties on behalf of Aircraft Leasing Ireland or on behalf of its affiliates; iii. SMBC Aviation Capital Limited or parties on behalf of SMBC Aviation Capital Limited or on behalf of its affiliates; iv. any other department of Government; v. any other diplomatic channels (including any administrative, legislative or other department(s) within the European Commission); and/or vi. vi. another Senior Official or Senior Officials B. In relation to events during the period 25 February 2022 to 31 August 2022 concerning the following: (i) insurance and reinsurance of aircraft; (ii) the text of and/or sanctions imposed by the Council Regulation (EU) 2022/328 of 25 February 2022; and/or (iii) like sanctions imposed by the United Kingdom and United States of America and the terms of the relevant legislation of those jurisdictions between any Senior Official(s) and: i. AerCap Holdings NV or parties on behalf of AerCap Holdings NV or on behalf of its affiliates: ii. ii. Aircraft Leasing Ireland or parties on behalf of Aircraft Leasing Ireland or on behalf of its affiliates; iii. iii. SMBC Aviation Capital Limited or parties on behalf of SMBC Aviation Capital Limited or on behalf of its affiliates; iv. iv. any other department of Government; and/or v. v. any other diplomatic channels (including any administrative, legislative or other department(s) within the European Commission); and/or vi. vi. another Senior Official or Senior Officials. Where possible, we request that the Records be provided in a searchable electronic form. We have also requested these Records from the Department of Transport, the Department of Finance and the Department of Foreign Affairs. Please inform us of the names of any other public body that, to your knowledge, might hold any of the Records.	Part granted	24/02/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2022/0322	1. Any correspondence since September 1st 2021 to Taoiseach Micheál Martin, his advisors or the Department of An Taoiseach from Meta Platforms or its subsidiaries Facebook, WhatsApp or Instagram on: a. EU-US data transfers b. Online safety issues c. Meta's position on the Online Safety Bill d. Meta's position on the Media Regulation Bill e. The EU's proposed regulation on child sexual abuse material f. The Electoral Reform Bill, and any proposed amendments to the Bill g. Ireland's approach to enforcement of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation h. Ireland's approach to corporate taxation and tax-related regulation 2. Records or minutes of any meetings or phone calls on the same topics (a–h above) between Taoiseach Micheál Martin, his advisors or the Department of An Taoiseach and representatives of Meta Platforms or any of its subsidiaries. Any submissions, notes, reports or draft reports on topics a–h submitted to Taoiseach Micheál Martin, his advisors or the Department of An Taoiseach and Meta Platforms or any of its subsidiaries	Part granted	31/01/2023
FOI/2022/0325	I am making a Freedom of Information request for the following records: • Copies of all briefing material prepared for the new Taoiseach Leo Varadkar; • Copies of all briefing material prepared for the new Minister of State for European Affairs Peter Burke; • Copies of all briefing material prepared for the new Government Chief Whip Hildegarde Naughton.	Part granted	25/01/2023
FOI/2023/0003	I am seeking a copy of the purchase order or invoice associated with the following transaction: - National Treasury Management Agency Moriarty Tribunal – Reimbursement to NTMA in respect of settlement of third-party legal costs by the State Claims Agency 179,500.00 21/02/2022 32350	Part granted	01/02/2023
FOI/2023/0005	Copies of any representations/letters received by the department with regard to the breach of privacy where a video of Taoiseach Leo Varadkar was circulated on social media.	Part granted	31/01/2023
FOI/2023/0006	1. Meeting minutes of the 'Con Murray group' on the refugee crisis response (for clarity, this is the group referred to in briefing documents prepared for Minister of State Joe O'Brien) 2. Correspondence between this group and other departments or state agencies 3. Outputs of the group such as memos, research projects, information notes, correspondence to government ministers etc.	Granted	13/02/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2023/0007	Copies of any correspondence to the Taoiseach from members of the public offering advice, congratulations or other views on his appointment as Taoiseach on December 17th 2022. I am seeking copies of any such emails or letters from the period December 17th 2022 to January 6th 2023.	Part granted	07/02/2023
FOI/2023/0008	All briefing notes (in electronic and/or physical format) prepared by the Department for the new Chief Whip - Hildegarde Naughten - on her appointment to the role arising from the Cabinet reshuffle on 17 December 2022.	Part granted	30/01/2023
FOI/2023/0009	I would like to request the following information in relation to An Taoiseach's attendance at the housing conference on 10th January 2023. 1. Attendance list 2. List of those invited 3. Minutes or transcripts of the conference/meeting 4. Details of key outputs 5. Correspondence between Dept of Housing and Dept of An Taoiseach relating to the planning and hosting of the conference	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0012	1. Records relating to the possibility of/plans for holding an inquiry or review into the Covid-19 pandemic - Both internal and external (i.e. correspondence with third parties, other state agencies or government departments) 2. From April 2022 to date	Part granted	08/02/2023
FOI/2023/0014	A letter from Pat Rigney to the Department of the Taoiseach on Ireland's health warnings on bottles of wine, beer and spirits, per the lobbying register.	Part granted	10/02/2023
FOI/2023/0016	Correspondence with other Departments and/or the Attorney General's office on third party funding of international arbitration	Part granted	09/02/2023
FOI/2023/0017	• The full invite list for the housing conference held in January. • Any correspondence where officials discuss who should be invited to the housing conference. • Any correspondence sent to the Department of An Taoiseach asking why they were not invited to the housing conference.	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0019	• All correspondence between Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Damien English regarding Mr English's resignation and property interests between January 9 2023 and the date of this request • All correspondence between Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Fine Gael General Secretary John Carroll regarding Damien English between January 9 2023 and the date of this request • All correspondence between Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Tánaiste Micheál Martin regarding Damien English between January 9 2023 and the date of this request	Part granted	13/02/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2023/0021	Any emails, notes, memos, briefings and/or records in relation to a meeting held between Qualcomm's chief executive and Taoiseach Leo Varadkar. The meeting was outlined in this lobbying return: https://www.lobbying.ie/return/90461/qualcomm	Part granted	06/03/2023
FOI/2023/0023	• Minutes of the housing stakeholder conference that took place on 10 January 2023. • Briefing notes provided to the Taoiseach ahead of the housing stakeholder conference on 10 January 2023.	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0024	1) All internal written correspondence including memos, minutes of meetings, reports, faxes, letters, e mails, phone text messages including those on social messaging apps such as WhatsApp, pertaining to invitations to the Housing for All Stakeholders conference held in January 2023. 2) All written correspondence including memos, minutes of meetings, reports, faxes, letters, emails, phone text messages including those on social messaging apps such as WhatsApp between the Department of An Taoiseach and third parties regarding invitations to the Housing for All Stakeholders conference held in January 2023.	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0025	Written briefing notes to the Taoiseach regarding invitations to the Housing for All conference held in January 2023 and all internal written correspondence, including responses from the Taoiseach and his advisors, regarding briefing notes to the Taoiseach about invitations to the Housing for All conference held in January 2023.	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0028	- All communications in written and digital form (emails to work or personal inboxes, text messages, letters, memos) received by Brian Murphy, the then chief of staff to Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, and/or Bríd Murphy, Special Adviser, from Ms Aisling Dunne, head of public policy at Bolt, in relation to the company. - All records of meetings, phone conversations or other interactions between the same individuals on Bolt's business. The timeframe should cover the period of May 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0033	Meeting minutes and email correspondence between Medtronic and Minister Thomas Byrne related to a meeting held on Dec 7 2022, as outlined on the lobbying register https://www.lobbying.ie/return/94156/medtronic-plc	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0036	Any records related to lobbying of Elizabeth Canavan by the Immigrant Council of Ireland between 1 September and 31 December last. I am specifically seeking records related to in this entry on the Lobbying Register, including notes or minutes taken at the meeting referred to. https://www.lobbying.ie/return/93326/immigrant-council-of-ireland	Part granted	02/03/2023
FOI/2023/0037	A list of gifts/high value items kept by the Department of the Taoiseach. It should include a list of items handed over to the Department by ministers, Oireachtas office holders, TDs and Senators - by name - in instances where the value of the gifts were more than €650. Please include a description of the items and their estimated value.	Granted	22/02/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2023/0038	• Minutes from Taoiseach Leo Varadkar's meeting with the Housing Commission on January 3, 2023 • Briefing documents prepared for Mr Varadkar his meeting with the Housing Commission on January 3, 2023	Part granted	20/02/2023
FOI/2023/0041	I would like the records of monthly costs for both electricity and heating bills for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 for Government buildings on Merrion Square.	Granted	24/02/2023
FOI/2023/0044	Copies of all representations made to the Taoiseach on the topic of Brexit. The representations can be limited to those sent by: • Politicians • Businesses • Non-governmental organisations • Unions • Farming lobby groups • Tourism lobby groups • Business lobby groups The correspondence can be limited to the period December 17th 2022 to January 30th, 2023.	Granted	02/03/2023
FOI/2023/0047	A copy of any requests made by Leo Varadkar or members of his personal staff with regard to office accommodation, computer equipment, accessories, appliances, artwork, or any other such changes to their accommodation at department headquarters. A copy of any correspondence referring or relating to the above requests. To cover the period between 1 September 2022 and 1 February 2023.	Granted	03/03/2023
FOI/2023/0048	All memos, reports and documents prepared for Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and John Callinan (Secretary General) about housing between 17 December 2022 and present date	Part granted	01/03/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2023/0049	Three recent entries on the lobbying register show that staff at the Department of the Taoiseach engaged with Glenveagh and Vulcan Consulting (acting on behalf of Glenveagh) in recent months. Below are the three lobbying entries • https://www.lobbying.ie/return/93387/vulcan-consulting-limited • https://www.lobbying.ie/return/93390/vulcan-consulting-limited • https://www.lobbying.ie/return/91960/glenveagh-properties-plc 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 Taoiseach and Deirdre Gillane and Glenveagh Properties Plc + Vulcan Consulting (between 1 Sep, 2022 and current date) about the following topics a) progress on planning reform, b) implementation of key objectives from Housing for All, c) increased residential housing targets and d) compact and sustainable growth. Minutes and notes taken by Department of the Taoiseach during meetings mentioned in the following entries on the lobbying register - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/93387/vulcan-consulting-limited + https://www.lobbying.ie/return/91960/glenveagh-properties-plc Correspondence between Deirdre Gillane and Glenveagh Properties Plc + Vulcan Consulting about Wicklow County Development Plan between between 1 Sep, 2022 and current date (see lobbying entry - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/93390/vulcan-consulting-limited)	Granted	23/02/2023
FOI/2023/0050	• All correspondence between Micheál Martin, An Taoiseach + Deirdre Gillane, Chief of Staff and Irish Institutional Property (IIP) (between 1 Sep, 2022 and current date) in connection with "institutional investor funding support of Housing for All (HfA) and discussion on IIP policy priorities" (See relevant entry on the Lobbying Register here - https://www.lobbying.ie/return/91349/irish-institutional-property) • Minutes from any meeting between Micheál Martin, An Taoiseach + Deirdre Gillane, Chief of Staff and Irish Institutional Property (IIP) (between 1 Sep, 2022 and current date)	Granted	28/02/2023
FOI/2023/0051	A copy of the minutes of Cabinet meetings held in the period July to December 2017.	Part granted	08/03/2023
FOI/2023/0056	The speaking points provided to ministers between 11th July and 15th July 2022 on the topic of the release of the 2021 annual report of notifications received under the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018.	Granted	14/03/2023

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Ref No	Description	Decision	Date Released
FOI/2023/0064	• Any communications, by letter or email, between the Taoiseach and the Minister for Housing between December 17th 2022 and February 27th 2023 • Any communications, by letter or email, between the Taoiseach and the Minister for Children between December 17th 2022 and February 27th 2023 • Any communications, by letter or email, between the Taoiseach and the Minister for Health between December 17th 2022 and February 27th 2023 • Any communications, by letter or email, between the Taoiseach and the Minister for Environment between December 17th 2022 and February 27th 2023	Part granted	30/03/2023
FOI/2023/0068	FOI Request (part 1) Is there a record with the Taoiseach's Private Secretary (or other such appropriate designated officer) which notes any raised concerns regarding the content of the currently issued 'Printed Constitution'? FOI Request (part 2) It suggests in Article 25.5.2 of the Constitution of Ireland, that the compiled and issued constitution, embodying all amendments, which is issued by the Taoiseach, is the one enrolled with the Registrar of the Supreme Court. This Article conflicts with what a Department of Justice official stated in 2018: that there are in fact two different versions of the Constitution, the one with the Supreme Court and the one issued to the general public (blue cover book) called by the same Department of Justice Official in 2018 as a "popular version" Is there a record held by the Taoiseach's Private Secretary (or other such appropriate designated officer) detailing and noting these conflicting versions? FOI Request (part 3) Is there a record which clearly shows through policy decision, legislation, regulation etc the why, that the general public have not been issued the enrolled constitution and have been limited to the "popular edition" (name of alternate version given by a Department of Justice official in 2018)	Granted	29/03/2023