

Our Ref: FOI/Req/21/040

Mr Craig Farrell

15 March 2021

Dear Mr Farrell,

I refer to your recently submitted request for information, made under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, in which you requested the following:

In accordance with section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014, I wish to request access to the following records that I believe to be held:

- A list of all the gifts presented by each Irish Ambassador for the embassy listed below in 2019 and 2020; please include a description of the gift, the cost, where it was purchased, and to whom it was given.
- A list of all the gifts received by each Irish Ambassador for the embassy listed below in 2019 and 2020; please include an estimated value of the gift (if possible), a description of the gift and who gave it.

List of embassies included: Canada, USA, China, Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Japan, Belgium, Holy Sea, UK

I also refer to the acknowledgement of this request sent on 17 February 2021, and to your email of 2 March 2021 in which you agreed to limit the scope of the request to gifts with a monetary value greater than €50.

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

There were no gifts <u>presented</u> in 2019 or 2020 by the Ambassadors of Ireland to the USA, China, Israel, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the Holy See, or Great Britain, with a monetary value greater than €50.

There were no gifts <u>received</u> in 2019 or 2020 by the Ambassadors of Ireland to Canada, the USA, China, Israel, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Japan, Belgium, or the Holy See, with a monetary value greater than €50.

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	 	
FOI Section		