

Date Received Reference No.	Category of Requester	Request	Decision Made	Decision Date
03/10/2022 20014	Journalist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence between Minister Heather Humphreys and Minister Michael McGrath regarding Budget 2023 between 1 August 2022 and the date of this request (to include the Minister's office and advisers). • Correspondence between officials in the Department of Social Protection with the rank principal officer and above regarding the social protection budget for Budget 2023 between 1 August 2022 and the date of this request. • Correspondence between officials in the Department of Social Protection with the rank principal officer and above and officials in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform regarding the social protection budget for Budget 2023 between 1 August 2022 and the date of this request <p>Correspondence should include (but not be limited to) text messages, emails, letters, briefing notes, memos, WhatsApp messages etc</p>	Refused	16/12/2022
05/10/2022 20050	Member of the Public	<p>Records showing how an Irish State Contributory mixed pension is calculated where a person retiring at 66, has both Irish A1 stamps and D1 stamps. Please note request is regarding general information and I enclose illustrative example as follows: Person is retiring on a D1 Public Sector occupational pension scheme with 35 years D1 contributions and has 5 years A1 contributions from previous employment(s), before they joined the public sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can that person get a mixed rate pro rata contributory pension in relation to their A1 PRSI record when they have less than 520 contributions • Can you advise how the mixed rate contributory pension would be calculated 	Refused	02/11/2022
10/10/2022 20061	Journalist	<p>With regard to Domiciliary Care Allowance applications, please provide records in relation to correspondence held by the Department relating to the lack of regulations surrounding the assessment of needs diagnoses for ASD in the private sector. Please include records relating to the Department's policy on dealing with psychologists who are unqualified or who are not members of accredited bodies in Ireland. Please also include records in relation to threats of legal action arising from the Department's refusal to not accept reports from unqualified psychologists.</p>	Refused	02/11/2022
10/10/2022 20062	Journalist	<p>Records in relation to correspondence held by the Dept of Social Protection relating to inaccurate or fraudulent applications for Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA) in which the forms have been signed by a psychologist rather than a doctor or qualified specialist. Please include records relating to the Department's policy on what constitutes a specialist on the application form for DCA payments.</p>	Refused	02/11/2022
11/10/2022 20083	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death statistics by week for 2022 up to 1 October 2022 • Death statistics by week for 2021 • Death statistics for the end of year for 2020 and 2019 	Refused	13/10/2022
11/10/2022 20088	Member of the Public	<p>Records showing the number of Ukrainians having been granted temporary protection in Ireland, who have informed the Department that they were temporarily leaving the state for the purpose of securing continued payments of social welfare.</p>	Refused	19/10/2022
17/10/2022 20104	Member of the Public	<p>Referencing the attached transcript newspaper article from Business Post on 24 May 2015 titled "MABS boards to be slashed from 93 to 12",</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On what date did the Department make the 'final decision' mentioned in the final line • Were the projected cost savings of €340K per year realised 	Refused	08/11/2022

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18/10/2022 20120	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statutory provisions, regulations, operational guidelines applicable in assessing the gross income of self-employed persons in general. The statutory provisions, regulations, operational guidelines applicable to assessing the gross income of self-employed persons who apply for Disability Allowance (DA). Information regarding the number of self-employed persons who have applied for DA, the length of time taken to process their claims compared to the length of time taken to assess the claims of employees and unemployed persons. The percentage of self-employed persons who, having applied for DA, have had an inspector appointed to decide or review their claim. 	Part Granted	08/11/2022
18/10/2022 20124	Journalist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of all correspondence to and from the secretary general related to the return to office working at the Department following the Covid-19 pandemic. The correspondence can be limited to items to and from the following: ministers; unions from 1 August 2022 to 18 October 2022. The records should include copies of any documents attached or enclosed with the correspondence and give details of the total number of staff employed by the Department as of 30 September 2022 and a breakdown of how many are working from home; working in the office; working in a hybrid arrangement. Copies of any internal publications or reports on remote working and return to the office drawn up since 31 January 2022. 	Part Granted	11/11/2022
26/10/2022 20174	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current records showing the number of single women and single men receiving one-parent family payment. The number of men and women who receive Child Benefit. The number of single fathers and single mothers who receive Child Benefit. The number of men and women who receive Jobseekers Allowance without meeting the formal requirements. 	Granted	18/11/2022
27/10/2022 20183	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the commencement of the Civil Registration (Amendment) Act, 2004 on the 18 August, 2015, on how many occasions have proposed marriages been deemed to be marriages of convenience by Superintendent Registrars pursuant to section 58(7) of the Civil Registration Act, 2004 (as amended). How many of these cases were the subject of appeals to the Circuit Court in accordance with section 58(9) of the Civil Registration Act, 2004 (as amended). What were the outcomes of these appeals. 	Refused	24/11/2022
01/11/2022 20196	Journalist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of completed reviews and audits conducted by the Department that found concerns about use of Tús funding by organisations in receipt of that funding from 1 January 2018 to date. Any follow up correspondence and reports generated in each case. 	Part Granted	29/11/2022
02/11/2022 20204	Journalist	A list of all e submission titles sent to the Minister in the Department during August, September and October 2022.	Granted	09/12/2022
02/11/2022 20207	Journalist	The Department's risk register	Part Granted	30/11/2022
04/11/2022 20217	Member of Business/Interest Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the meeting between Minister Humphreys and Fiona Coyne, CEO of Citizens Information Board (CIB) and Catherine Heaney, Chair of Board, held on 13 September 2022. Copies of any correspondence, including emails, after this meeting between the Minister and the two CIB officials. Copies of any correspondence after the meeting from the Minister to the regional Citizens Information Service companies or any other parties relevant to the subject matter of the meeting of 13 September which was about the ending of the use of volunteers in Citizens Information Centres (CIC) and the reduction of face-to-face meetings in centres generally. Copies of any requests for information from late August 2022 from Liveline and Joe Duffy to the Minister about the ending of the use of volunteers in CICs, and the replies to such requests. 	Granted	02/12/2022

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18/11/2022 20331	Member of the Public	From 1 January 2021 to date, I seek - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> records on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology by the Department in order to automate the processing of welfare applications, including to award or deny welfare payments, to sort, rank, or evaluate applicants, for risk-based verification or to assess the likelihood of fraud, or to otherwise make decisions about welfare applications. a schedule of all records identified as relevant to this request, including those which may be refused. 	Refused	16/12/2022
23/11/2022 20341	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount that the Department has paid security companies to provide security personnel onsite on DSP INTEO offices to date in 2022. If there is more than 1 company providing security personnel, please provide the name of each company and the amount that has been paid to each company for such services in tabular form. The roles and duties that are expected to be undertaken by external security personnel that are deployed to INTREO offices eg. turning on and off Security alarms, handling post etc. The frequency at which officials from the Department meet with senior management of security company to discuss performance related issues eg. every 6 months of contract and the grade of DSP officials normally present at these meetings. To be assistance what I am seeking eg Staff at the grade of APO and above would normally attend these meetings. To date in 2022 has the Department withheld any funding from any external security company providing security personnel to INTREO offices due to breaches of the contract between the two parties. If so the amount of funding withheld. 	Granted	21/12/2022
25/11/2022 20352	Member of Business/Interest Group	All records pertaining to Daily Expenses Allowance and Budget 2023 (may also be called direct provision allowance).	Granted	21/12/2022
28/11/2022 20360	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records created after 1 January 2020 relating to payments made by the Department for hearing aids under its scheme whereby it currently provides up to a maximum of €500 for a single aid, or up to €1,000 for a pair Total paid by the Department for hearing aids in each of the years 2020 and 2021. 	Granted	07/12/2022
07/12/2022 20412	Journalist	The following E-submissions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Sept 22 draft Re Maternity Related issues 11 Oct. 22 Note for information re autumn bonus 17 Oct. 22 Re: two Pensions Council Reports on (i) the gender pensions gap and (ii) cost transparency 9 Sept 22 draft re. Parent's Benefit & Lone Parents 	Part Granted	09/01/2023
07/12/2022 20416	Member of the Public	Copy of the Internal Guidelines on the Assessment of Overpayments	Refused	13/12/2022
09/12/2022 20425	Member of the Public	Records regarding the Department's WAN and remote access infrastructure to better understand the public sector connectivity landscape, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the Department use for WAN connectivity – MPLS, Internet Circuits or both? The current provider of MPLS and Internet Circuits When do current contracts expire for MPLS and Internet Circuits Has the Department adopted or is it considering SD-WAN as a technology fully adopted, partially adopted In light of Covid and the increase in home working, has the Department considered or adopted technologies such as SASE (secure access service edge) How does Department currently provide remote access? i.e. VPN What vendor does Department currently use for VPN connectivity When does current VPN contract (support/licences) expire Does Department outsource current WAN infrastructure or manage this in-house If outsourced, with whom is agreement and when does it end. 	Refused	22/12/2022

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12/12/2022 20430	Member of the Public	<p>I'm doing some research into the role of the GRO in accepting religious groups as official solemnisers of weddings. As part of this, I'm interested in acquiring several documents (non-personal information) from the General Registrar Office under the Freedom of Information Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of the most up-to-date organisation structure chart/similar document outlining the various units within the GRO responsible for handling material related to solemnisers/registration of weddings. • Minutes of the GRO Programme Board meetings for the last 5 years. • Copy of any forms a candidate religious group must fill out to apply to become a nominating body for solemnisers of weddings. • Any internal documents/training material that outline the procedure to be used when evaluating an application from a religious body to be accepted for the first time as a nominating body for solemnising marriages. Also any documents that outline which staff/units within the GRO are responsible for handling same. • Information on how long the last 10 submissions for new religious bodies to be accepted as nominating bodies for solemnisers have taken to be processed from the receipt of their application until final acceptance/rejection. • Copies of any emails, letters or other forms of communication to any entity outside the GRO (including but not limited to the HSE and/or Dept of Social Protection) to request further input/information on a religious organisation making an application to become a nominating body within the last 5 years. • The number of new religious bodies that were added to the register of nominating bodies for the last 5 years. • The names of any applicant groups that were rejected and any details as to why they were not accepted. 	Granted	10/01/2023
09/12/2022 20456	Member of the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The names of any private companies that have been engaged by the Minister in relation to the potential future use of artificial intelligence software or services by the Department. • In the event that no AI has been or is currently used by the Department, I am seeking any communication by the Minister regarding plans to use or test AI in the future. 	Refused	13/01/2023
12/12/2022 501292	Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSP HR Promotion Policy • DSP HR Filing of Vacancies Policy 	Refused	12/01/2023
19/12/2022 20482	Member of Business/Interest Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Named company requests all records held by the Department in relation to the investigation it carried out into the TUS programme delivered by same company . • All records in relation to the investigation are requested include any written or printed material which is in any form including any electronic device, any recordings on any social media format, any recordings on Teams or other platforms, visual or non-visual received by the Department from any persons excluding two named people. 	Part Granted	09/02/2023
20/12/2022 20493	Others	<p>In accordance with the FOI Act, I request access to the following records which are to be provided in electronic format. For the years 2017 – 2021 that the Department provide the following information in tabular form:</p> <p>From 2017 – 2021 -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Total Number of FOIs received by the Department • A Breakdown of the number of Personal v Non-Personal v Mixed • The Number of FOIs per year that received a charge or had the applicant pay a cost • The Total charged each year for Search, Retrieval and Copying Charges 	Granted	12/01/2023
23/12/2022 20511	Member of the Public	The number of late applications for Partial Capacity Benefit refused to date in 2022	Refused	20/01/2023
29/12/2022 20514	Journalist	The most recently updated Department Brief for an incoming Minister, either signed off and delivered to a new minister following the 2022 December reshuffle, or the draft prepared for possible change of minister but not delivered as minister wasn't changed.	Part Granted	17/02/2023