



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

13 October 2016

**Northern and Central Europe Department**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0624-16**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 28 June 2016. In your request you asked for:

*Could I please have all correspondence between the British Embassy, Dublin and any member of the Irish Government regarding the centenary of the Easter Rising from 1 January 2016 until present.*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

Please find attached the information that the FCO can release to you. Some of the information has been withheld using section 26 of the Act (information which or would be likely to prejudice the defence of the British Islands or of any colony). We have considered the public interest carefully and some of the information would be likely to prejudice the UK's defence policies. Therefore, it has been deemed that the public interest lies in maintaining the use of section 26.

Some of the information you have requested is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

The copies of information being supplied to you continue to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Most documents supplied by the FCO will have been produced by government officials and will be protected by Crown Copyright. To re-use Crown Copyright documents please consult the [Open Government Licence v3](#) on the National Archives website.

Information you receive which is not subject to Crown Copyright continues to be protected by the copyright of the person, or organisation, from which the information originated. You must ensure that you gain their permission before reproducing any third party (non-Crown Copyright) information.

Yours sincerely,

Northern and Central Europe Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.