I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this body:

An itemised list of all expenditure undertaken by the Department on private travel for the Minister and/or for his private office; on legal fees; on consultancy fees; on hotel accommodation, since the formation of the government until 27/09/2016

I have now made a final decision to grant your request on 10 November 2016.

Accordingly, a copy of the records is now enclosed including a copy of the schedule to these records.

You may appeal this decision. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Education & Skills, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. Your correspondence should include a fee of €30 for processing the appeal. Payment should be made by way of money order, postal order or personal cheque, made payable to the Department of Education & Skills. You should make your appeal within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. A week is defined in the Act to mean 5 consecutive weekdays, excluding Saturdays and public holidays (Sundays are also excluded, as they are not weekdays). The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this body.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 01 889 2335.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Newcombe
Minister’s Office

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