RTÉ Freedom of Information – Q1 2020 (January – March)

FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
1.	03.01.2020	Any documents circulated to the RTÉ Board from June 2019- December 2019 relating to the RTÉ Player service.	Member of the public	Refused. Sections: 29(1)(a) and (b); 30(1)(b) and (c); 36(1)(a), (b) and (c). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
2	03.01.2020	Records held in any database or other organised data storage and retrieval system, in any format, that records the participation of particular individuals, or individuals representing particular organisations on RTÉ news, discussion or current affairs programmes as broadcast.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
3.	10.01.2020	How many employees/contractors in the past 10 years, received financial settlements (excl. pension payments), by challenging retirement at 65; what amounts were paid out in each case; what was total financial cost to the organisation for settlements.	Staff	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
4.	10.01.2020	All complaints made to RTÉ in relation to 'The Late Late Show' in 2019.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
5.	10.01.2020	All complaints made to RTÉ in relation to 'The Late Late Show's' tribute to Shane MacGowan on December 13, 2019.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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6.	13.01.2020	 RTÉ Gold: Audience figures for top 10 rated named shows for September 2019. Copies of letters from members of the public and staff expressing unhappiness at decision to shut down service. The costs of operating service in 2019 and 2018. Internal correspondence to/from DG re. decision to shut down service in 4 weeks leading up to RTÉ announcing closure in November 2019. Copies of internal reports recommending closure from the start of August 2019 up to announcement. The number of staff employed by service at the time of announcement. 	Journalist.	Granted in part. Sections: 15(1)(a); 36(1)(a); 37(1).
7.	14.01.2020	The minutes of all meetings of the organisation's board/ governing authority/management committee, or equivalent central authority, held in 2019.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Sections: 29(1)(a) and (b); 39(1)(a) (b), and c; 36(1)(a) and (b); 37(1). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
8.	14.01.2020	The cost involved in RTÉ acquiring streaming rights to 'The Late Show with Stephen Colbert', currently streaming on the RTÉ Player.	Member of public	Refused. Sections: 35(1)(b); 36(1)(a) and (b). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
9.	16.01.2020	All complaints received since January 1, 2020, concerning debates for General Election 2019. All memos on feedback circulated to management since January 1, 2020, concerning same.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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10.	20.01.2020	 Audience figures for all episodes of first season of 'Finding Joy', on its initial showing and on repeats, across all broadcast channels RTÉ ONE, RTÉ ONE +1, RTÉ2 and RTÉ2 +1. The number of streams for 'Finding Joy' on its initial run and since. Audience figures for RTÉ News 'Year in Review' for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 (broadcast and Player audiences). Audience figures for RTÉ's Choice Music Awards 2016, 2017, 2018 on broadcast and RTÉ player. Audience figures for 'The Doireann Project' on RTÉ Player and on RTÉ2. The per episode cost of 'Dancing With The Stars' 2017 and 2018. 	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Section 36(1)(b) and (c). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
11.	20.01.2020	At end of 2019 and end of 2018: number of staff/PAYE workers at RTÉ earning salaries and remuneration: over €300,000; between €250,000 to €300,000; between €200,000 to €250,000; between €150,000 to €200,000; between €100,000 to €150,000. The numbers employed by RTÉ at end 2019 and 2018 and to take voluntary redundancy at RTÉ end 2019 and 2018. The reasons behind the increase/decrease in numbers employed at RTÉ last year.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a).

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12.	20.01.2020	Copies of any correspondence between RTÉ and any of the following relating to the unauthorised use of RTÉ footage in campaign videos: An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, The Department of the Taoiseach, Fine Gael.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Sections 15(1)(a); 36(1)(b) and (c); 37(1).
13.	20.01.2020	Copies of the receipts/invoices associated with the entertainment category in FOI 2019 - 206. Also as part of the scheduling, a brief narrative explanation of each of the receipts/invoices and what they relate to.	Journalist.	Granted.
14.	22.01.2020	Copy of 'The Loft' broadcast on RTÉ, 3rd December 2006.	Member of the public.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
15.	24.01.2020	How many times 'Wolfe Tones' songs, including 'Come Out, Ye Black and Tans', were played on RTÉ Radio 1 and 2FM during 2019 and to date in 2020. Include details of the songs played and how many times each was played during the period.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
16.	28.01.2020	All complaints received since January 1, 2020, concerning the RTÉ Player. All memos on feedback circulated to management since January 1, 2020, concerning the RTÉ Player.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).
17.	29.01.2020	All documents relating to RTÉ involvement in covering 'climate now' ('climatenow.org').	Member of the public.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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18.	03.02.2020	Total amount spent by RTÉ on accommodation in hotels in the years 2016 to 2019, with information on the total number of bookings in each of these years. In each of the years, a breakdown on how many of these bookings were (i) for RTÉ staff, (ii) for guests on shows/programmes, with the total monetary value for each category. Also a further breakdown by hotel and the monetary value of the bookings in each year in each hotel.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
19.	03.02.2020	Copies of any correspondence between RTÉ and Minister Michael Ring with regard to an FOI request made by him for details of salary/expenses paid to RTÉ GAA analyst Pat Spillane. Copies of the notes of any telephone conversation between RTÉ and Minister Michael Ring with regard to the above matter.	Journalist.	Granted.
20.	03.02.2020	Copies of all meeting notes/minutes of all meetings of RTÉ's General Election Steering Committee re. this year's general election coverage, & any correspondence from committee to other RTÉ departments regarding same.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
21.	03.02.2020	Copies of legal advice RTÉ received in re. a legal letter it received from Sinn Féin over exclusion of party's leader Mary Lou McDonald from a 'head to head' leaders' debate between Fine Gael's Leo Varadkar and Fianna Fáil's Micheál Martin.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 31(1). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
22.	04.02.2020	Copy of the minutes of meeting, Feb 3, 2020, of RTÉ General Election Steering Committee to consider representation from Sinn Féin for Mary Lou McDonald to participate in 'Prime Time' leaders' debate & the names of the members of the Committee.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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23.	05.02.2020	A list of RTÉ's full art inventory to include a) name of the art piece b) name of artist c) whether or not it has been sold d) the painting's current location. Any documents/reports prepared as part of the inventory process. Any documents prepared during the sales process of art from the collection. Any documents concerning the current whereabouts of paintings in the RTÉ collection.	Journalist	Granted in part. Sections: 15(1)(a); 30(1)(c); 32(1)(c);
				35(1)(a); 36(1)(a), (b), (c).
24.	06.02.2020	How much RTÉ spent on each of their sets for its 2020 General Election debates. Provide a breakdown on the cost of each set listed.	Journalist.	Refused.
				Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
25.	10.02.2020	Who commissioned the programme 'Factory of Lies' shown on the 8th Feb 2020 on RTÉ 2 @ 1:30am.	Member of the	Refused.
			public.	Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
26.	17.02.2020	Re. decision to appoint Brendan O'Connor to present weekend 11am-1pm radio programme: i) who/what body	Member of the	Refused.
		decided appointment? (ii) was appointment voted on; if so	public	Sections: 15(1)(a); 37(1).
		were there dissenters to appointment? If so how many? (iii) was position advertised; if so how/when? (iv) if position not advertised why/how was decision not to advertise arrived at? (v) Did Mr. O'Connor approach the authority to fill the position or did the authority approach Mr. O'Connor? (vi) were there other applicants for the post; if so how many? (vii) was any woman considered for position? If not why not? (viii) was any person of colour/anyone from an ethnic background considered for position? If not why not? (ix)) was concern expressed by anyone within the authority that method of appointment might be seen as possibly discriminatory/lacking transparency & fairness? (x) what salary does the authority propose to pay Mr. O'Connor? (xi) what was Mr. O'Connor's total income from RTÉ in 2019?		Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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27.	18.02.2020	Cost of accommodation spent on guests on 'Today with Maura and Daithi' for show's last two seasons; names of hotels guests stay in; how many guests have been accommodated by show over last two seasons.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
28.	18.02.2020	Cost of the production for 'The Late Late Show' Valentine's Special on February 14 th ; cost of food and drink on the night; total cost of guest/contributors fees on the night & cost of taxis/accommodation.	Journalist	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
29.	18.02.2020	List of the current allowances payable to staff members in RTÉ with a brief explanation of each allowance and the amount that it is worth annually; details of the amount paid in allowances to staff in 2019.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a).
30.	02.03.2020	RTÉ Radio 1 programmes: World Report (International news & current affairs radio programme) & This Week (Ireland's longest- running News & Current Affairs programme). Please provide the following (non-personal) details in relation the coverage since 01/01/2019 of the ongoing political, humanitarian and military crisis in Syria: date of broadcast, duration of coverage, on-duty editor, name of contributor/interviewee where relevant.	public.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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31.	02.03.2020	Any market research undertaken to assist in decision taken to replace Marian Finucane with Brendan O'Connor. Any internal memos/minutes/correspondence on the decision on the decision making process to appoint Mr O'Connor to the position full time.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
32.	02.03.2020	The following information for 2018 (and if possible for 2019) relating to the Digital Advertising Business Division: Advertising income for 2018 and 2019 – for the Digital IBD. Sponsorship income for 2018 and 2019 – for the Digital IBD. Have this revenue detail broken down into the following formats: Embedded display formats / Interruptive display formats / Native advertising / Tenancy (all other types of sponsorship display advertising that isn't native in nature)/ Pre/mid/post roll video / Digital audio / Other (please specify)" Populate the revenue information (table supplied in FOI request).	Business / Interest Group.	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a).
33.	04.03.2020	Figures which show how many people have tuned into 'Dancing With The Stars' each week since it first aired on January 8, 2017 to present.	Journalist.	Granted.

Disclosure Log of completed Freedom of Information requests

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34.	31.03.2020	At end of 2019: Number of staff/PAYE workers at RTÉ earning salaries and remuneration: over €300,000; between €250,000 to €300,000; between €200,000 to €250,000; between €150,000 to €200,000; between €100,000 to €150,000. The numbers: employed by RTÉ at end 2019 to take voluntary redundancy at RTÉ end 2019 and reasons behind the increase/decrease in numbers employed at RTÉ last year.	Journalist.	Withdrawn.