



Our ref: FOI/63/2004.

Mr. Arthur Beesley,  
The Irish Times,  
10 – 16 D'Olier Street,  
Dublin 2.

30 July 2004

Dear Mr. Beesley,

I refer to the request, which you made to this Department under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested "any records of correspondence created since the start of 2004 on the matter of the financial situation at RTÉ."

I enclose a schedule of all records, which are relevant to the request. I am releasing all records with the exception of the following.

**File S1/445-B/04:**

Record 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.

**File S1/1-W/04:**

Record 3b.

Access to these records is being refused under section 27(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act on the grounds that these records contain commercially sensitive information.

**File S1/1-W/04:**

Record 3b, 6, 9b, 10, 15c.

Access to these records is being refused under section 19(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act on the grounds that these documents were prepared for the purpose of the transaction of the business of the Government at meetings of the Government.

**File S1/1-W/04:**

Record 17.

Access to this record is being refused under section 19(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act on the grounds that this document is a decision of the government.

**S1/1-W/04**

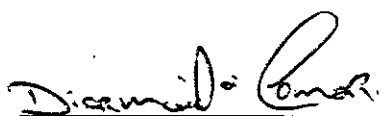
Record 5b.

Access to this record is being partially refused under section 28(1) of the Freedom of Information Act on the grounds that this document contains personal information.

The Freedom of Information Act provides the right to appeal a decision taken under the Act within 4 weeks of the initial decision. Should you wish to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to Mr. John Wynne, FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2.

The review is a full and new consideration of the matter by a more senior member of staff of this Department. The Act requires that the review be completed within 3 weeks of receipt of such request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diarmuid O'Connor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

Diarmuid O'Connor  
Broadcasting Policy Division

**FOI Request: 63/2004**

**Request from Mr. Arthur Beesley, The Irish Times for "records or correspondence created since the start of 2004 on the matter of the financial situation at RTÉ."**

**Schedule No. 1**

**File No. S1/445-B/04: RTÉ Management Accounts 2004**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document Details</b>	<b>Release</b>
1	16.02.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
2	16.02.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts – Month Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
3	15.03.2004	Cover letter for February Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTE) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes
4	15.03.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
5	15.04.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts – Month Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
6	15.04.2004	Cover letter for March Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTE) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes
7	15.04.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
8	14.05.2004	Cover letter for April Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTÉ) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes
9	14.05.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts – Month Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
10	14.05.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
11	14.05.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts – Month Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
12	14.05.2004	Cover letter for April Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTÉ) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes
13	16.06.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
14	16.06.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts –	No,

		Month Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2004	Section 27 (1)(b)
15	16.06.2004	Cover letter for May Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTÉ) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes
16	10.07.2004	Outline Commentary on Management Accounts – Month Ended 30th June 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
17	10.07.2004	RTE Management Accounts – Month Ended 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2004	No, Section 27 (1)(b)
18	10.07.2004	Cover letter for June Management Accounts from C. Hayes (RTÉ) to E. Molloy (DCMNR)	Yes

**FOI Request: 63/2004**

**Request from Mr. Arthur Beesley, The Irish Times for "records or correspondence created since the start of 2004 on the matter of the financial situation at RTÉ."**

**Schedule No.2**

**File No. S1/1-W/04: RTÉ Annual Report and Accounts 2003**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document Details</b>	<b>Release</b>
1	01.04.2004	RTÉ Financial statements years Ended 31 December 2003.	Yes
2	12.05.2004	Email request for review of financial accounts.	Yes
3a	20.05.2004	Email from S. O'Connor (DCMNR) to B. Tuohy, E. Molloy and others RE: RTÉ Annual Report	Yes
3b	20.05.2004	Departmental review of financial accounts.	No: Section's 19(1)(a) & 27(1)(b)
4	24.05.2004	RTÉ's submission of Annual Report and Chairman's Statement.	Yes
5a	28.05.2004	Letter From P. Wright To Minister Ahern Re: RTÉ Annual Report and Chairperson's Statement.	Yes
5b	28.05.2004	Chairperson's Report to the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources.	Partial Release: Section 28 (1)
6	??.06.2004	Draft of Memorandum for Government.	No section 19 (1)(a)
7	31.05.2004	Article form the Times newspaper. Title: RTÉ will report €2m surplus for 2003.	Yes
8	01.06.2004	Internal email on Corporate Governance Compliance.	Yes
9a	08.06.2004	Internal email re submission of Corporate Governance Code of Practice checklist.	Yes
9b	08.06.2004	Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. Checklist.	No: Section 19 (1) (a)
10	??.06.2004	Internal memo From S. Clifford To Rúnai Aire, Sec General and others RE: Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts for Radio Telefís Éireann for the year ended 31 December 2003.	No: Section 19 (1) (a)
11	10.06.2004	Letter From E. Confrey. To Private Secretary to the Tánaiste. Re Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts for RTÉ year ended 31 December 2003.	Yes

12	10.06.2004	Letter From E. Confrey. To Private Secretary to the Minister of Finance. Re Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts for RTÉ year ended 31 December 2003.	Yes
13	10.06.2004	Letter From E. Confrey. To Private Secretary to the Taoiseach. Re Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts for RTÉ year ended 31 December 2003.	Yes
14	10.06.2004	Copy of Fax from M. Murphy DCMNR To N. Carron Government Secretariat. Re Item for Government Agenda.	Yes
15a	10.06.2004	Fax from M. Murphy DCMNR To N. Carron Government Secretariat. Re Item for Government Agenda.	Yes
15b	10.06.2004	Letter From E. Confrey. To Private Secretary to the Government. Re Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts for RTÉ year ended 31 December 2003.	Yes
15c	15.06.2004	Memorandum for Government Re: Annual Report and consolidated Accounts for Radio Telefís Éireann for the year ended 31 December 2003.	No: Section 19 (1) (a)
16	26.06.2004	Internal Memo From C. O'hObain To Runai Aire, Sec. General and e. Molloy. Re; RTÉ Annual Report for 2003.	Yes
17	15.06.2004	Decision of Government	No: Section 19 (1) (b)
18	17.06.2004	Documents to be laid before The Seanad.	Yes
19	17.06.2004	Documents to be laid before The Dáil.	Yes
20	17.06.2004	Letter From D. O'Connor DCMNR. To T. Quinn RTÉ. Re: RTÉ Annual Report and Accounts 2003.	Yes
21	???.06.2004	Newspaper article "TV talent show success helps drive RTÉ €2m profit"	Yes
22	21.06.2004	Letter From T. Quinn RTÉ To D. O'Connor DCMNR. Re: Acknowledgement of letter dates 17.06.2004.	Yes
23	16.06.2004	Irish Times Article "RTÉ sees a profit despite tougher market".	Yes
24	20.06.2004	Sunday Independent Article "RTÉ's licence to bill: where has all the money gone?"	Yes
25	20.06.2004	Sunday Tribune "RTE's dominance of televised sports is a clear abuse of licence fees"	Yes
26	27.06.2004	Sunday Times "RTÉ predicts a 22% boost in fee income"	Yes
27		RTÉ Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2003.	Yes