



# THE SUNDAY TIMES

**London Office:** 1 Pennington Street, London E1 1ST Telephone: 44 207-782 5000 Fax: 44 207-782 5765  
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14 April 2010

To whom it may concern,

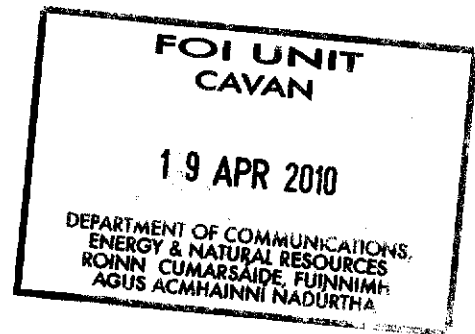
I wish to make an application under the Freedom of Information act for

(a) all representations made to the department by professional or lobbying groups and motor-industry representatives re. electric cars;

(b) details of any subsistence allowances made to ministers or ministers of state in the department since June 2007 for absences within Ireland, both overnight allowances and daily rates.

Sincerely,

JOHN BURNS  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
THE SUNDAY TIMES



04/05/2010

Mr John Burns  
The Sunday Times  
4th Floor  
Bishop's Square  
Redmond's Hill  
Dublin 2

**FOI Request Reference: RequestID: 469**

Dear Mr Burns,

I refer to your FOI request under Section 7 of the Freedom of Information Acts, 1997 and 2003, received in this office on 19/04/2010 requesting records relating to electric cars & details of subsistence allowances made to Ministers or Ministers of State in the Department since June 2007. The application was received along with the associated fee.

Your request has been circulated to Renewable and Sustainable Energy Division and Human Resource Division, a designated decision-maker will send their reply to the FOI Unit, the FOI Unit will co-ordinate the responses and forward them to you. If you have any questions to ask in relation to this matter please contact me at the number below.

You can expect to receive your decision by the 18/05/2010.

If you have not received a decision by that time, you are automatically entitled to appeal to the Department for a review of the matter. This review proceeds on the legal basis that the initial request is considered to be refused once the specified time for responding to it has expired. A request for a review should be addressed to the undersigned at the address shown.

Please note the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has a policy of posting a summary of non-personal requests and decisions on the Departments website for reference purposes.

Yours sincerely,

---

Carmel Cosgrove

FOI Unit  
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
Elm House, Earlsvale Rd  
Cavan  
Co Cavan

Phone: 01 6782902



Reference: FOI/2010/13b

19th May 2010

Mr. John Burns  
The Sunday Times  
Bishops Square  
Redmonds Hill  
Dublin 2.

Dear Mr. Burns

I refer to this Department's letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> May regarding the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003 for records held by this Department requesting details of any subsistence allowances made to Ministers or Ministers of State in the Department since June 2007 for absences within Ireland, both overnight allowances and daily rates.

I made a final decision to **grant** your request on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010. If you have any queries regarding this correspondence you can contact me by telephone at (01) 6782000.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. a schedule of all of the records covered by your request;
2. a statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these parts in turn.

### **1. Schedule of records**

A schedule is attached at the end of this letter. It shows the documents that this Department considers relevant to your request and gives you a summary and overview of the decision as a whole.

I consider photocopies an appropriate form of access in this case and accordingly a copy of the records is now enclosed.

### **2. Right to appeal**

You may appeal this decision. Please note that a fee applies for an appeal, with the exception of an appeal against the imposition of a fee. The level of this has been set at €75. 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 Communications Energy and Natural Resources and Energy, Elm House, Cavan enclosing the appropriate fee. Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque

made payable to the Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources. You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Walsh".

Brian Walsh

Corporate Finance and Planning Division

*Deese*

*CSF*

**Schedule of Records: Summary of Decision Making**

Rec. No	Brief description and date of record	File Ref	No. of pages	Decision: Grant/Part Grant/Refuse	Basis of Refusal: Section of Act	Reason for Decision	Public Interest Considerations (for and against release)	Record Edited/ Identify Deletions
1	Travel Claim Reports for Minister Eamonn Ryan for period June 2007 – June 2010		14	Grant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Travel Claim Reports for Minister Tony Killen for period December 2007 – May 2008		1	Grant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	Travel Claim Reports for Minister Sean Power for period July 2008 – May 2009		1	Grant	N/A	N/A	N/A	Information not relevant to the request – deleted
4	Travel Claim Reports for Minister Conor Lenihan for period July 2009 – May 2010		3	Grant	N/A	N/A	N/A	Information not relevant to the request - deleted

11/05/10

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	14,843	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	Minister
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/08/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	27/08/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
17/07/07 14:00	18/07/07	2:00	A101	Minister	Minister addressed the Magill Summer School in The Glenties, Co. Donegal.	1	43.13	43.13

Total for Subsistence

43.1

Total for this Claim

43.1

11/05/10

### Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	14,846	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	<b>Minister</b>
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/08/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	27/08/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Rel Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
31/07/07 13:30	31/07/07	18:30	A101	Minister	Day > 5hr	1	17.60	17.60
Visiting Breifne Project Offices in Cavan.								

Total for Subsistence

17.60

Total for this Claim

17.60

11/05/10

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	16,411	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	Minister
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	17/12/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	19/12/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
17/09/07 15:00	18/09/07	22:00	A101	Night	Launching UCC's Energy Engineering Degree in UCC and attending Conference Dinner speaking at ASPO Conference in Cork City Hall.	1	144.45	144.
17/09/07 15:00	18/09/07	22:00	A101	Day > 5hr	Launching UCC's Energy Engineering Degree in UCC and attending Conference Dinner speaking at ASPO Conference in Cork City Hall.	1	17.60	17.

Total for Subsistence

162.0

Total for this Claim

162.0

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	16,412	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	<b>Minister</b>
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	17/12/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	19/12/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
27/09/07	22:00	28/09/07	13:00	A101	Minister	Addressing IWEA Conference in the Slieve Russel Hotel, Co. Cavan.	1	43.13	43.13

Total for Subsistence **43.13**

Total for this Claim **43.13**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	16,413	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	<b>Minister</b>
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	17/12/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	19/12/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EU Amount
05/10/07 8:30	05/10/07	13:30	A101	Minister	Day > 5hr	1	17.60	17.6
					Visiting SEI in Dundalk. Meetings re Gas Generating Station, Proposed Wind Stations and Cackle Fishing in Dundalk Bay. Also launching 20-20 Homes.			

Total for Subsistence **17.6**

Total for this Claim **17.6**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	16,416	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A101	Minister
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	17/12/07	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	19/12/07	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
15/11/07	22:30	16/11/07	13:30	A101	Minister	Giving opening address at Meitheal na Gaoithe Conference in Thurles, Co. Tipperary.	1	43.13	43.1

Total for Subsistence **43.1**

Total for this Claim **43.1**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	17,840	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	28/07/08	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/08/08	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
15/01/08	8:00	15/01/08	20:00	A102	Ministers Office	Day > 10 hr	1	43.13	43.1
Launching Ocean Energy in the National Maritime College. Other energy visits and meetings in Cork.									

Total for Subsistence **43.1**

Total for this Claim **43.1**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	17,846	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	28/07/08	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/08/08	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date/Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
31/03/08 8:00	31/03/08	18:00	A102	Ministers Office	Day > 10 hr	1	43.13	43.13
Speaking at All Island Vision Conference in Cavan Crystal Hotel and launching of Westmeath Renewable Energy Study, Mullingar.								

Total for Subsistence **43.1**

Total for this Claim **43.1**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	17,847	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	28/07/08	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/08/08	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
25/05/08 19:30	26/05/08 21:00	A102	Night	Launch of CPI at University of Limerick and "Make it Secure" at Limerick Institute of Technology. Other meetings and visits in the Limerick area.	1	144.45	144.4

**Total for Subsistence**

144.4

**Total for this Claim**

144.4

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	17,849	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	28/07/08	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/08/08	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ref	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
09/06/08		10:30	09/06/08	21:00	A102	Ministers Office			
					Day > 10 hr	Attending energy events in Thurles and Tullamore.	1	43.13	43.13

**Total for Subsistence** **43.1**

**Total for this Claim** **43.1**

11/05/10

### Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	18,873	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/03/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	29/04/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
28/09/08	18:00	29/09/08	18:00	A102	Night	Minister attending meetings in Ballina, Co. Mayo	1	145.32	145.3

**Total for Subsistence**

**145.3**

**Total for this Claim**

**145.3**

11/05/10

### Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	18,875	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/03/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/04/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount	
11/10/08	11:00	11/10/08	22:00	A102	Ministers Office	Day > 10 hr	Minister speaking at Kenmare Policy Conference on Climate Change, Co. Kerry.	1	44.81	44.8

**Total for Subsistence** 44.8

**Total for this Claim** 44.8

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	18,877	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/03/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/04/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ref	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
05/11/08		05/11/08	14:00	A102	Day > 5hr	Minister addressing Geothermal Association Conference, Kilkenny.	1	18.28	18.28

Total for Subsistence

18.2

Total for this Claim

18.2

11/05/10

### Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	18,879	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A102	Ministers Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5628	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	13/03/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	28/04/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR	EU	
Dep Date Time	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	Rate	Amount	Amount	
05/12/08	6:00	05/12/08	18:00	A102	Ministers Office	Day > 10 hr	Minister attending NW Mayo Community Forum, Belmullet, Co. Mayo.	1	44.81	44.81

Total for Subsistence

44.81

Total for this Claim

44.81

11/05/10

### Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	17,381	<b>Car Reg</b>	08 D 10006	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A201	Minister of State
<b>Personnel No</b>	5666	<b>Engine CC</b>	2198	<b>Approver</b>	Denis Maher	
<b>Date Input</b>	25/04/08	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	02/05/08	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
20/04/08 23:00	21/04/08 11:00	A201	Minister of State	Day > 10 hr	Minister of State over night for speaking at DCENR conference	1	43.13	43.13

**Total for Subsistence** **43.1**

**Total for this Claim** **43.1**

Detailed Claim Report

Claim No	18,686	Car Reg	04 D 8579	Cost Centre	A201	Minister of State
Personnel No	5779	Engine CC	1800	Approver	Denis Maher	
Date Input	23/01/09	Mileage YTD	0	Date Approved	26/01/09	
Currency	EUR	Country	Rep of Ireland	Status	Processed	

Mileage Date	From To	Cost Centre	Type	Description	Miles	Rate	Amount
[REDACTED]							
[REDACTED]							
[REDACTED]							
[REDACTED]							

Subsistence Dep Date Time	Ret Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
04/12/08 18:00	05/12/08 19:00		A201	Night	Overnight ahead of attending meeting in Ballina	1	145.32	145

Total for Subsistence

145

Detailed Claim Report

Claim No	19,332	Car Reg	N/A	Cost Centre	A202	Minister of States Office
Personnel No	5819	Engine CC	0	Approver	David Hanley	
Date Input	23/07/09	Mileage YTD	0	Date Approved	24/07/09	
Currency	EUR	Country	Rep of Ireland	Status	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EU Amount
21/06/09	18:00	22/06/09	21:00	A202	Night	business trip to co mayo einclusion visit, ballina fishery and corrib forum	1	108.99	108.99

Total for Subsistence

108.99

Other Expense	Date	Cost Centre	Type	Description	Rec	Curr.	Value	Exchange Rate	EU Amount
<div style="background-color: black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>									

Total for Other Expense

0.00

**Detailed Claim Report**

<b>Claim No</b>	19,334	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A202	Minister of States Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5819	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	23/07/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	24/07/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Subsistence	Ret	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
20/07/09	9:00	20/07/09	17:00	A202	Minister of States Office	Day > 5hr	1	13.71	13.7
meeting in lough neagh fishery and north south sectoral meeting in antrim									

**Total for Subsistence** **13.7**

**Total for this Claim** **13.7**

Detailed Claim Report

<b>Claim No</b>	19,439	<b>Car Reg</b>	N/A	<b>Cost Centre</b>	A202	Minister of States Office
<b>Personnel No</b>	5819	<b>Engine CC</b>	0	<b>Approver</b>	David Hanley	
<b>Date Input</b>	26/08/09	<b>Mileage YTD</b>	0	<b>Date Approved</b>	01/09/09	
<b>Currency</b>	EUR	<b>Country</b>	Rep of Ireland	<b>Status</b>	Processed	

Substance	Ref	Date	Time	Cost Centre	Type	Description	No. Claimed	EUR Rate	EUR Amount
16/08/09		17/08/09	16:00	A202	Night	meeting in Galway re Bertraghboy Bay	1	108.99	108.99

**Total for Substance** 108.5

**Total for this Claim** 108.5