

## Annex C

| PUBLIC INTEREST TEST                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Request Ref:                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                   | DoF/2026-0384                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Request summary:                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                   | DOF Ministerial Car                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Information details:                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Exemption applied | Disclosure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Non-disclosure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (Please complete both columns to show all factors have been considered)                                                                                                                                                  |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Registration number of the Ministerial car.                                                                                                                                                                              | Section 38        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To show compliance with the FOI Act by disclosing information held by the Department as a Public Authority.</li> <li>There is a general public interest in the accountability, openness and transparency of government, and to promote public understanding.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revealing the registration creates a real and significant risk that individuals (including Ministers, drivers, and staff) could be targeted. This risk is not hypothetical; the car could be exploited for sabotage, protest, or physical harm.</li> <li>The Department considers that harm would be likely to occur because the information would enable individuals with malicious intent to identify and access vehicles or personnel at predictable times and places.</li> <li>Ministers are high-profile individuals; disclosure could increase vulnerability to attacks or criminal activity.</li> <li>ICO guidance recognises that where disclosure could facilitate harm to individuals, the public interest strongly favours withholding.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PUBLIC INTEREST DECISION:</b> Taking into account all the circumstances of this case, I have concluded that the balance of the public interest favours withholding this information.</p> <p>Date: 22 July 2026</p> |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |