

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Fáisnéise,
An Garda Síochána, Teach áth Luimnigh,
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail,
Baile Sheáin , An Uaimh,
Contae na Mí.
C15 ND62



Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown, Navan,
Co Meath.
C15 ND62

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350



Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Riomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000228-2021 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 23rd June, 2021 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act states that An Garda Síochána is listed as a partially included agency "*insofar as it relates to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters*". Therefore, only administrative records that relate to human resources, finance or procurement shall be considered.

Your request sought:

- 1)The amount An Garda Siochana spent on purchasing state of the art drones and or equipment for the drones in the years of 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and to-date in 2021 in tabular form*
- 2)As of 22nd June 2021 The number of drones in use by An Garda Siochana (excluding training purposes)*
- 3)The Garda Diversions that currently have access to drones upon request as of 22nd June 2021*
- 4)The number of Gardai who have successfully been trained in the usage of the drones as of 22nd June 2021*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 7th July, 2021.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

I am refusing Parts 1 and 2 of your request in accordance with section 15 (1)(d) of the FOI Act, 2014.

15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –
(d) the information is already in the public domain.

The records sought by you were subject to a previous FOI request (FOI-000076-2021) and as it is the practice of An Garda Síochána to publish all non-personal requests on their decision log. You can access the requested records by following the link below;

<https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/freedom-of-information/decision-log/freedom-of-information-office/freedom-of-information-foi-decision-logs-2021.html>

The information sought by you in Part 3 of your request pertain to the core functions of An Garda Síochána, that is, operational policing matters, as opposed to matters relating to human resources, or finance or procurement. I am therefore refusing this information as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it pertains to Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act as stated above.

In relation to Part 4 of your request this office has been advised that to date 20 members of An Garda Síochána have been successfully trained in the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems.

In the event that you are not happy with this decision you may seek an Internal Review of the matter by writing to the address below and quoting reference number **FOI-000228-2021**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Navan, Co. Meath, C15 ND62.

Please note that a fee applies. This fee has been set at €30 (€10 for a Medical Card holder). Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque, and made payable to Accountant, Garda Finance Directorate, Garda Headquarters, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8.

Payment can be made by electronic means, using the following details:

Account Name: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

Account Number: 30000302

Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302

BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000228-2021 is included in the payment details.

You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior


member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances.

Please be advised that An Garda Síochána replies under Freedom of Information may be released in to the public domain via our website at www.garda.ie

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
PAUL BASSETT
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

7th JULY, 2021.