

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 DR90



Freedom of Information Office
An Garda Síochána
Athlumney House
IDA Business Park
Johnstown
Navan
Co Meath
C15 DR 90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000353-2016 Request Refused

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) and your submission to An Garda Síochána dated and received on 28th September, 2016.

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 is shown below:

- 1) *How much money was yielded by the sales of former Garda stations in 2014 and 2015.*
- 2) *How much did AGS spend on new vehicles in 2014 and 2015 and how many vehicles were supplied*
- 3 1) *How much money did AGS spend on alcohol in 2014 and 2015*

I refer you to my letter of 11th October, 2016 advising that part 1 of your request was transferred to the Office of Public Works, who hold the records you have requested. Therefore this letter will deal with parts 2 and 3 as detailed above.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 20th October, 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access

In relation to Part 2 of your request (above), I advise that in keeping with its obligations under the FOI Act, An Garda Síochána routinely publishes information under the Publication Scheme. This includes the details of expenditure on vehicles up to June 2016 which is available on the Garda Website at <http://garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=15991>.

Therefore, I am refusing your part 2 request under section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act, which states.

Section 15 – Refusal on Administrative Grounds

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.*

With regard to part 3 of your request above seeking “How much money did AGS spend on alcohol in 2014 and 2015” I advise that the Finance Section of An Garda Síochána was requested to carry out searches for records. They have advised that following electronic searches of the Financial Management System and internal enquiries that no records were found relating to the purchase of alcohol in the period specified.

I must therefore refuse this part of this request under section 15(1)(a) as detailed below.

Section 15 – Refusal on Administrative Grounds

- 15 (1) *A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where—*
(a) *the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,*

2. Rights of appeal

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-000353-2016**

Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána,
Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown,
Navan,
Co. Meath
C15 DR90

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: Garda Síochána Finance Section Public Bank Account
Account Number: 10026896
Sort Code: 900017
IBAN: IE86B0F190001710026896
BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000353-2016) 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 will be removed to protect confidentiality where applicable.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 SUPERINTENDENT
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

21st OCTOBER, 2016