

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Bí linn/Join us  

Riomh-phoist/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

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**Mr Eamon Patterson**

## **Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000039-2017 Request Granted**

*Dear Mr. Patterson,*

I refer to your request, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 and received on 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2014 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 is shown below:

- *How much was generated through fines that were issued in the Garda North Dublin Division in the years 2015,2016 and to-date in 2017; and where possible could I get a detailed breakdown of what these fines were for.*

I understand that in a conversation with a member of my staff that you have clarified your request to seek payments made on Fixed Charge Notices.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

## **1. Findings and particulars.**

On the 31st October 2002, the Fixed Charge Notice (FCN) process was introduced as a replacement of the old 'on the spot' fine system along with Penalty Points. The Fixed Charge Processing System (FCPS) was developed by An Garda Síochána to enable computerised, automated processing of FCNs and to assist in the management of the penalty points system. The process applied to the then penalty point offences, certain parking and other offences under the Road Traffic Acts. One of the key objectives of the fixed charge notice system is to contribute to safer driving and reduced road traffic collision casualties.

Since 2002 the system has been expanded to include offences related to the main collision causation factors, such as seatbelt wearing, speeding and intoxicant related offences, as part of a number of road safety strategies. Since their introduction an increased level of compliance by road users has been recorded and thereby contributing to a reduction in road fatalities.

More recently fixed charges for defective tyres and pedal cycle offences have been included.

Since 2008 Public Order offences (Intoxication in a Public Place and Disorderly Conduct in a Public Place) can also be dealt with by FCN.

Currently FCPS caters for 614 FCN offences which are grouped into 40 groups for internal administration purposes.

The current legislation for the FCN process allows for the payment of the fixed charge within 28 days of issue of the notice. If payment is not made in this period, an increased charge may be paid within a further 28 day period. (*Payment of the fixed penalty in relation to drink driving offences is restricted to one period of 28 days at the original amount*).

These payments are collected on behalf of An Garda Síochána by An Post. The payments received are used to offset the costs of the outsourced speed cameras contracts. In the event that the income from FCNs exceeds the costs of the contracts the excess is returned to the Exchequer.

If payment of the FCN is not made within the allowable period, court proceedings are initiated by way of summons application. Any fines arising from the court proceedings are not received by An Garda Síochána.

The number and amount of fines paid by offence group for the DMR North Dublin Division are provided to you in Appendix A attached.

The figures were extracted based on the date the payments were processed by An Post. Therefore some payments may relate to offences that occurred in the later stages of the previous year.

## **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-000039-2017**.

*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:** BOFIIIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000039-2017) 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](http://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.**

 **FEBRUARY, 2017**



## Appendix A – Paid Fixed Charge Notices for D.M.R. Northern in 2015, 2016 and to 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

YEAR	Division	Offence Description	Number	Amount
2015	D.M.R. Northern	Crossing Centre Lines On A Roadway Causing Danger.	18	€1,520.00
		Dangerous & Endangering Overtaking	21	€1,720.00
		Drink Driving Fixed Penalty	34	€8,600.00
		Drive On Or Across A Footway, Cycle Track Or Continuous White Line	7	€450.00
		Driving A Vehicle Without Reasonable Consideration	195	€16,080.00
		Enter Or Stop Or Park On A Tram Line, Tram Only Street Or Cycle Track	49	€2,020.00
		Exceed Vehicle Weights	13	€2,700.00
		Fail To Observe Traffic Signs And Road Markings	229	€15,000.00
		Fail To Yield Right Of Way	8	€640.00
		Failing To Display A Valid Tax Or Insurance Disc	1275	€84,240.00
		Failing to Obey Level Crossing Signals	3	€240.00
		Failing To Obey Parking Signs And Road Markings	986	€41,480.00
		Failing To Stop At Traffic Lights (Red & Amber)	263	€22,080.00
		Failure To Obey Mandatory Traffic Signs, Weight Restrictions And Reversing Offences	18	€1,140.00
		Failure to obey or signal intent to comply with an instruction given by a Garda or School Warden	8	€720.00
		Holding A Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	988	€63,570.00
		Novice Driver Offences	356	€27,180.00
		Obstruct Or Delay a Vehicle Entering/Exiting From A Fire, Ambulance Or Garda Station,	2	€80.00
		Parking In A Manner Or Location That Causes A Danger Or Obstruction	509	€21,200.00
		Parking Offences - Hired Vehicles	33	€1,480.00
		Parking Or Stopping In A Clearway Or Disabled Space	80	€5,120.00
		Parking Within 5 Metres After a Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	28	€1,140.00
		Parking/Entering A Bus Lane, Bus Contraflow, At Bus Stop Or Taxi Rank	486	€28,630.00
		Parking/Stopping In Loading Bay And School Entrance	114	€4,880.00
		Pedal Cycle Offences	7	€300.00
		Public Order Offences	27	€3,040.00
		Seat Belt Offences	217	€13,800.00
		Small Public Service Vehicle Regulations	4	€160.00
		Speeding Offences	8678	€733,680.00
		Stopping/Parking On A Motorway Etc.	35	€2,720.00
		Using Vehicle Without NCT Test Certificate	301	€19,650.00

YEAR	Division	Offence Description	Number	Amount
		Using Vehicle/Trailer Without The Required Lighting	18	€1,170.00
<b>2015 Total</b>			<b>15010</b>	<b>€1,126,430.00</b>
2016	D.M.R. Northern	Crossing Centre Lines On A Roadway Causing Danger.	16	€1,360.00
		Dangerous & Endangering Overtaking	18	€1,520.00
		Drink Driving Fixed Penalty	34	€8,600.00
		Drive On Or Across A Footway, Cycle Track Or Continuous White Line	4	€240.00
		Driving A Vehicle Without Reasonable Consideration	186	€15,520.00
		Enter Or Stop Or Park On A Tram Line, Tram Only Street Or Cycle Track	39	€1,560.00
		Exceed Vehicle Weights	5	€1,000.00
		Fail To Observe Traffic Signs And Road Markings	140	€9,070.00
		Fail To Yield Right Of Way	7	€560.00
		Failing To Display A Valid Tax Or Insurance Disc	1251	€82,620.00
		Failing to Obey Level Crossing Signals	4	€360.00
		Failing To Obey Parking Signs And Road Markings	926	€38,960.00
		Failing To Stop At Traffic Lights (Red & Amber)	218	€18,080.00
		Failure To Obey Mandatory Traffic Signs, Weight Restrictions And Reversing Offences	7	€420.00
		Failure to obey or signal intent to comply with an instruction given by a Garda or School Warden	3	€240.00
		Holding A Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	781	€49,980.00
		Novice Driver Offences	435	€33,990.00
		Park in a Prohibited or Restricted Area	11	€500.00
		Parking In A Manner Or Location That Causes A Danger Or Obstruction	408	€16,840.00
		Parking Offences - Hired Vehicles	18	€760.00
		Parking Or Stopping In A Clearway Or Disabled Space	108	€7,320.00
		Parking Within 5 Metres After a Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	24	€1,020.00
		Parking/Entering A Bus Lane, Bus Contraflow, At Bus Stop Or Taxi Rank	595	€36,540.00
		Parking/Stopping In Loading Bay And School Entrance	70	€2,980.00
		Pedal Cycle Offences	10	€420.00
		Public Order Offences	49	€5,610.00
		Seat Belt Offences	145	€9,510.00
		Speeding Offences	8272	€693,280.00
		Stopping/Parking On A Motorway Etc.	11	€840.00
		Use A Vehicle With Defective Or Dangerous Tyres	26	€2,320.00



YEAR	Division	Offence Description	Number	Amount
		Using Vehicle Without NCT Test Certificate	412	€27,420.00
		Using Vehicle/Trailer Without The Required Lighting	7	€420.00
<b>2016 Total</b>			<b>14240</b>	<b>€1,069,860.00</b>
2017	D.M.R. Northern	Crossing Centre Lines On A Roadway Causing Danger.	1	€80.00
		Dangerous & Endangering Overtaking	1	€80.00
		Drink Driving Fixed Penalty	2	€400.00
		Drive On Or Across A Footway, Cycle Track Or Continuous White Line	1	€90.00
		Driving A Vehicle Without Reasonable Consideration	18	€1,520.00
		Enter Or Stop Or Park On A Tram Line, Tram Only Street Or Cycle Track	10	€460.00
		Fail To Observe Traffic Signs And Road Markings	11	€870.00
		Fail To Yield Right Of Way	1	€80.00
		Failing To Display A Valid Tax Or Insurance Disc	127	€9,090.00
		Failing To Obey Parking Signs And Road Markings	86	€3,560.00
		Failing To Stop At Traffic Lights (Red & Amber)	38	€3,200.00
		Failure To Obey Mandatory Traffic Signs, Weight Restrictions And Reversing Offences	1	€60.00
		Holding A Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	81	€5,340.00
		Novice Driver Offences	49	€3,850.00
		Park in a Prohibited or Restricted Area	7	€280.00
		Parking In A Manner Or Location That Causes A Danger Or Obstruction	32	€1,360.00
		Parking Or Stopping In A Clearway Or Disabled Space	13	€780.00
		Parking Within 5 Metres After a Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	3	€140.00
		Parking/Entering A Bus Lane, Bus Contraflow, At Bus Stop Or Taxi Rank	94	€5,820.00
		Parking/Stopping In Loading Bay And School Entrance	7	€280.00
		Public Order Offences	6	€690.00
		Seat Belt Offences	10	€660.00
		Speeding Offences	1431	€119,400.00
		Stopping/Parking On A Motorway Etc.	2	€160.00
		Use A Vehicle With Defective Or Dangerous Tyres	4	€360.00
		Using Vehicle Without NCT Test Certificate	38	€2,550.00
		Using Vehicle/Trailer Without The Required Lighting	5	€360.00
<b>2017 Total</b>			<b>2079</b>	<b>€161,520.00</b>