

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 DR90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Bí linn/Join us



Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000181-2017 Request Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 15th April, 2017 and received on 19th April, 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 sought:

i) Information on all paid fixed-charge notices for each of the Roscommon/Longford and Sligo/Leitrim Garda divisions so far in 2017, broken down by the offence group, number and amount.

ii) Information on all paid fixed-charge notices in each of the same divisions that were not paid within 28 days, again broken down by the offence group, number and amount.

I note that your request was limited to part 1 of the above in your email dated 3rd May, 2017.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 15th May, 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 fixed charge notices paid by offence group for Roscommon/Longford and Sligo/Leitrim as of 5th May, 2017 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-000181-2017**.

**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: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000181-2017) 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.

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 OFFICE

16th May, 2017

Appendix A – Paid Fixed Charge Notices for Roscommon/Longford and Sligo/Leitrim as of 5th May, 2017.

Division	Offence	Number	Amount
Roscommon/Longford Div	Parking/Entering A Bus Lane, Bus Contraflow, At Bus Stop Or Taxi Rank	1	€ 40.00
	Parking Or Stopping In A Clearway Or Disabled Space	30	€ 2,440.00
	Drink Driving Fixed Penalty	13	€ 3,800.00
	Drive On Or Across A Footway, Cycle Track Or Continuous White Line	5	€ 330.00
	Driving A Vehicle Without Reasonable Consideration	36	€ 3,000.00
	Fail To Yield Right Of Way	2	€ 160.00
	Holding A Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	186	€ 11,580.00
	Dangerous & Endangering Overtaking	1	€ 80.00
	Failing To Obey Parking Signs And Road Markings	38	€ 1,580.00
	Parking In A Manner Or Location That Causes A Danger Or Obstruction	50	€ 2,140.00
	Parking/Stopping In Loading Bay And School Entrance	7	€ 300.00
	Parking Within 5 Metres After a Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	4	€ 160.00
	Parking Within 15 Metres Before Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	1	€ 40.00
	Novice Driver Offences	45	€ 3,320.00
	Public Order Offences	32	€ 3,490.00
	Failing to Obey Level Crossing Signals	1	€ 80.00
	Crossing Centre Lines On A Roadway Causing Danger.	23	€ 1,920.00
	Seat Belt Offences	63	€ 3,960.00
	Speeding Offences	1527	€127,040.00
	Failing To Display A Valid Tax Or Insurance Disc	163	€ 10,800.00
	Fail To Observe Traffic Signs And Road Markings	5	€ 360.00
	Failing To Stop At Traffic Lights (Red & Amber)	7	€ 560.00
	Use A Vehicle With Defective Or Dangerous Tyres	15	€ 1,240.00
	Using Vehicle Without NCT Test Certificate	28	€ 1,770.00
	Using Vehicle/Trailer Without The Required Lighting	20	€ 1,260.00
	Exceed Vehicle Weights	1	€ 300.00

Division	Offence	Number	Amount
Sligo/Leitrim	Parking/Entering A Bus Lane, Bus Contraflow, At Bus Stop Or Taxi Rank	6	€ 280.00
	Parking Or Stopping In A Clearway Or Disabled Space	1	€ 40.00
	Drink Driving Fixed Penalty	6	€ 1,200.00
	Driving A Vehicle Without Reasonable Consideration	17	€ 1,480.00
	Fail To Yield Right Of Way	2	€ 200.00
	Failure To Obey Mandatory Traffic Signs, Weight Restrictions And Reversing Offences	4	€ 240.00
	Holding A Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	220	€ 13,980.00
	Dangerous & Endangering Overtaking	5	€ 440.00
	Failing To Obey Parking Signs And Road Markings	5	€ 220.00
	Parking In A Manner Or Location That Causes A Danger Or Obstruction	2	€ 80.00
	Parking Within 5 Metres After a Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	2	€ 100.00
	Parking Within 15 Metres Before Road Junctions, Traffic Lights And Pedestrian Crossings	4	€ 160.00
	Novice Driver Offences	14	€ 1,200.00
	Public Order Offences	52	€ 6,590.00
	Crossing Centre Lines On A Roadway Causing Danger.	10	€ 920.00
	Seat Belt Offences	41	€ 2,610.00
	Failure to obey or signal intent to comply with an instruction given by a Garda or School Warden	1	€ 80.00
	Speeding Offences	1194	€100,200.00
	Failing To Display A Valid Tax Or Insurance Disc	223	€ 14,670.00
	Fail To Observe Traffic Signs And Road Markings	6	€ 360.00
	Failing To Stop At Traffic Lights (Red & Amber)	14	€ 1,160.00
	Use A Vehicle With Defective Or Dangerous Tyres	6	€ 600.00
	Using Vehicle Without NCT Test Certificate	16	€ 1,020.00
	Using Vehicle/Trailer Without The Required Lighting	5	€ 330.00