

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



Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Mr. Gordon Deegan

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000325-2017 Request Refusal

Dear Mr. Deegan,

I refer to your request, dated 20th July, 2017 and received on 21st July, 2017 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI Act) 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 am seeking the following under the Freedom of Information Act.

A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with An Garda Síochána's anti-terrorist unit training exercises that took place on Friday, July 14th.

The total costs of equipping the Garda Armed Support Units in 2016 and 2017 and a detailed breakdown of those costs.

The total cost of equipping each member of the ASU.

A detailed breakdown of the spend on the standard equipment/clothing per member of the ASU.

eg

Automatic weapon €2,000

Helmet €500

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I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 21st July, 2017

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions.

Part 5 of the FOI Act outlines the “Restriction of Act”

Restriction of Act

42. *This Act does not apply to—*

(b) a record held or created by the Garda Síochána that relates to any of the following:

- (i) the Emergency Response Unit;*
- (ii) the Secret Service Fund maintained by it;*
- (iii) the Special Detective Unit (SDU);*
- (iv) the witness protection programme sponsored by it;*
- (v) the Security and Intelligence Section;*
- (vi) the management and use of covert intelligence operations;*
- (vii) the Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) Act 1993;*
- (viii) the Criminal Justice (Terrorist Offences) Act 2005;*
- (ix) the Criminal Justice (Surveillance) Act 2009*
- (x) the Communications (Retention of Data) Act 2011*

I am refusing your request as the Detective Chief Superintendent SDU has responsibility for the Armed Support Unit and any record held or created by An Garda Síochána that relates to any of the matters outlined above is not subject to the provisions of the FOI Act.

1. Right 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 **F01-000325-2017**.

Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána
Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
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 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 have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HEEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

21ST JULY, 2017