

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

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

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000013-2018 Granted

*Dea,*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 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:

*With respect to the purchase of new 7 Series BMW's for the President of Ireland.*

- 1. When was the decision taken and why?*
- 2. Were the cars tendered for and if so were they published across the EU?*
- 3. What budget was used to pay for the purchase?*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

## 1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

In order to provide answers to the questions contained in your FOI request of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 a number of enquiries were made with An Garda Síochána Finance Directorate regarding the purchase of large executive vehicles for use by the President of Ireland. The following information was provided.

The official vehicles available for use by the President of Ireland are continually monitored in the context of running costs, reliability and odometer readings. As a vehicle ages it is understandable that the reliability will diminish and running costs will increase. These factors are considerations that form part of the decision making process as to when an official Garda vehicle should be replaced. Replacement vehicles are purchased as the need arises to ensure the operational capacity of Garda vehicles is sustained.

In 2015 a tender was published by the Office of Government Procurement on <https://irl.eu-supply.com/ctm/Supplier/PublicTenders/ViewNotice/190535> for the purchase of Large Executive Vehicles. The contract was awarded to BMW for the supply of both estate and saloon models. In 2016 an order was placed for 2 vehicles for official duties pertaining to the President of Ireland. The vehicles were purchased and the cost was taken from the Garda Transport Capital Budget 2016.

## 2. 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 **FOI-000013-2018**.

***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-000013-2018) 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 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**  
**SHARON KENNEDY**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

02 **FEBRUARY 2018**