

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

Bf linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Riomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000056-2019 Request Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 4th February, 2019 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána. I understand a member of staff from this office was in contact with you on 12th February 2019 in order to clarify your request.

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:

The amount of money spent by An Garda Síochána since January 2012 on tow truck vehicles.

These vehicles are used to seize MPVs which have contravened subsection 4 of the Finance Act 2001, or have not displayed tax, insurance, NCT.

The vehicles which have also been seized as a result of arrest under section 49 of the road traffic act.

Your clarified request sought:

The amount of money spent by An Garda Síochána since January 2012 on towing services.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 12th February, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt of your request, the Finance Directorate was contacted in order to identify the records relating to the amount of money spent by An Garda Síochána since January 2012 on towing services. A search was conducted of the Financial Management System and the following records have been identified in the table below:

Vehicle Towing	
2012	€2,439,120
2013	€2,453,183
2014	€2,209,811
2015	€2,331,934
2016	€2,654,956
2017	€3,417,449
2018	€4,057,008
2019 (31 st January 2019)	€348,344

As advised by this office, An Garda Síochána contract the services of towing operators to assist with the removal of cars to a pound for PSV inspections as a result of an accident, where the vehicles can be seized under Section 41 RTA because the driver has no insurance, no tax for over three months or the driver is under age for example.

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-000056-2019**.

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: IE86BOFI90001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000056-2019 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
SHARON KENNEDY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

12 February, 2019.