Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000071-2020
Request Refused

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 4th February, 2020 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:

I wish to make a freedom of information request about An Garda Siochána's CCTV policy.

Under the An Garda Siochana Act 2005 there are two types of CCTV schemes:

Community Based CCTV Schemes and Garda Schemes.

I request information about the policies, criteria and controls for both types of CCTV schemes.

I have attached a document pertaining to be Garda guidelines on CCTV. I found this on a commercial CCTV website, please would you confirm that if this is an authentic copy of An Garda Siochana's guidelines on CCTV.

I obtained this on the following website:

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on 6th February, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

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.

HR records refer to personal records of staff working within An Garda Síochána. They also relate to statistical information in respect of the organisation, e.g. sick leave, discipline, retirements, etc. Financial records relate to the financial expenditure of the organisation and procurement records relate to the contracting of services and the tendering process associated with same.

Your request does not come within the ambit of this partially included agency as set out in Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

I am therefore refusing your request as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it pertains to An Garda Síochána.

However, in order to assist you information in relation to Community based CCTV schemes can be found on the Department of Justice and Equality’s website at the following link: http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Community-Based-CCTV

This website contains useful information and links regarding grant aid and the necessary steps needed to take in order to obtain an authorized CCTV scheme.

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-000071-2020.


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: BOFIIE2D

An Garda Síochána:
Ag Coinneáil Síthílítte – Keeping People Safe
You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000071-2020 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 into 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,

Maria Brodigan
ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

6th FEBRUARY, 2019.