Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000373-2018
Request Refused

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 3rd September, 2018 and received on 4th September, 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:

All costs associated to the refurbishments of an properties owned by An Garda Síochána from 1 Han 2018 to 31 August 2018.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 26th September, 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were provided to the Estate Management Section within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records relating to your request.
We have been advised by the aforementioned section that An Garda Síochána are prohibited by law from having an interest in property. All property used by An Garda Síochána is either owned by or let by the Office of Public Works, or in a small number of cases, by the Department of Justice. Therefore, I am refusing your request under Section 15 (1)(a) which states;

Section 15 – Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where

(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken.

As the records you are seeking may be held by the Office of Public Works, please find hereunder contact details for your ease of reference:

Freedom of Information Officer, Office of Public Works, Government Buildings, Hebron Road, Co. Kilkenny, R95 H4X, Email: foiunit@opw.ie

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-000373-2018.


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

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000373-2018) 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 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 me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Kennedy
SUPERINTENDENT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

26 September, 2018