

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

Bí linn/Join us



Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000423-2018 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 15th October, 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:

- 1. How many Hyundai Tuscon jeeps were purchased by An Garda Síochána in 2017 and in 2018?*
- 2. What was the cost of purchasing these vehicles? Was there an additional cost relating to installing blue lights, sirens, radio telecommunications systems and other essential emergency response equipment to each? If so, how much did that cost?*
- 3. Where are those vehicles now?*
- 4. How many frontline members of An Garda Síochána have received the appropriate CBD training to drive them?*
- 5.(a) What was the total spend on vehicles for AGS last year? 5. (b) Can you break it down into cars, motorbikes, jeeps, vans etc please*

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6. In relation to motorbikes, how much was spent adapting them for use as police vehicles e.g. installing lights, sirens, communications equipment, additional batteries etc? If you have specific costs for each make and model e.g. BMW or Yamaha etc, please include that detail.

7. How much was spent on mechanical maintenance and repairs to cars, motorbikes, jeeps and vans in 2016 and 2017? If you have figures for 2018 to date, please include them.

Please note I have numbered your request for your ease of reference.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 12th November, 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt, details of your request were forwarded to the relevant section within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records containing the information you have requested.

I now wish to inform you that I am granting Part 1 and Part 2 of your request.

Table A below supplies the details requested:

Year	No of vehicles Purchased(New)	Cost of Purchasing	Cost of fitting	No of vehicles Purchased (Second-hand)	Cost of Purchasing	Cost of fitting
2017	0	€0	€0	1	€27,500	€4,415
2018	21	€493,500	€199,260	3	€86,000	€12,411.24

I am refusing Part 3 of your request as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as the records do not meet the criteria of administrative records as defined in the Act.

The records that you seek pertain to the core functions of An Garda Síochána, that is, operational policing matters, as opposed to matters relating to human resources, or finance or procurement.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act provides that An Garda Síochána is not a public body for the purposes of the FOI Act other than in relation to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters.

The term “administrative records” is understood to mean records relating to the processes of running and managing a business or organisation. The FOI Act excludes operational policing business as opposed to the defined administrative processes of An Garda Síochána. As a result, the core business of An Garda Síochána is safeguarded from release under the provisions of the FOI Act.

To provide an analysis and breakdown in relation to Part 4 and Part 5 (b) of your request would prove voluminous and by reason of the nature and volume of the records involved would cause a disruption to the working of a number of functional sections of An Garda Síochána, therefore I am refusing this element of your request under Section 15(1)(c) of the FOI Act wherein it states:

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-

(c) in the opinion of the head, granting the request would, by reason of the number or nature of the records concerned or the nature of the information concerned, require the retrieval and examination of such number of records or an examination of such kind of the records concerned as to cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with or disruption of work (including disruption of work in a particular functional area) of the FOI body concerned,"

However, I can advise that members of An Garda Síochána who successfully completed the Standard Car Course and CBD2 Course who subsequently completed a 4x4 Course are deemed competent to drive the Hyundai Tucson jeeps.

In relation to Part 5 (a) and Part 7 of your request I wish to inform you that I am refusing both parts of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(d) which states:

*15(1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where
(d) the information is already in the public domain.*

The information requested by you is provided on the Garda website. You may access the information by following the attached link:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/finance-services/finance-%E2%80%93-fleet-management.html>

I am refusing part 6 of your request in accordance with Section Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 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,

However, I wish to advise you that the cost of adapting motorbikes is included in the overall cost of each motorbike and cannot be separated.

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-000423-2018**.

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-000423-2018 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

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

12 NOVEMBER, 2018.