

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 DR 90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

**Ms Jessica Casey,
The Irish Examiner,**

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000082-2017 Request Granted

Dear Ms Casey,

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) and your request to An Garda Síochána dated and received on the 27th February, 2017.

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 is shown below:

“-How much income was generated from fines relating to parking in disabled parking bays in each county in the years 2014, 2015 and 2016? Please provide a breakdown for each county.

-Where was this income spent?”

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 22nd March, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings and particulars.

On the 31st October 2002, the Fixed Charge Notice (FCN) process was introduced as a replacement of the old 'on the spot' fine system along with Penalty Points. The Fixed Charge Processing System (FCPS) was developed by An Garda Síochána to enable computerised, automated processing of FCNs and to assist in the management of the penalty points system. The process applied to the then penalty point offences, certain parking and other offences under the Road Traffic Acts. One of the key objectives of the fixed charge notice system is to contribute to safer driving and reduced road traffic collision casualties.

Currently FCPS caters for 614 FCN offences which are grouped into 40 groups for internal administration purposes. There are two main offence types relating to your request; parking in a disabled parking bay and stopping in a disabled parking bay.

The number and amount of fines paid for these offences are provided to you in Appendix A attached. The figures were extracted based on the date the payments were processed by An Post. Therefore some payments may relate to offences that occurred in the later stages of the previous year.

The current legislation for the FCN process for these offences allows for the payment of the fixed charge within 28 days of issue of the notice. If payment is not made in this period, an increased charge may be paid within a further 28 day period.

These payments are collected on behalf of An Garda Síochána by An Post. The payments received are used to offset the costs of the outsourced speed cameras contracts. In the event that the income from FCNs exceeds the costs of the contracts the excess is returned to the Exchequer.

If payment of the FCN is not made within the allowable period, court proceedings are initiated by way of summons application. Any fines arising from the court proceedings are not received by An Garda Síochána.

It should also be noted that these figures relate to FCN issued by An Garda Síochána only. Additional figures may be available from local authorities who also monitor parking offences.

2. Rights 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-000082-2017**.

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: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000014-2017) is included in the payment details.

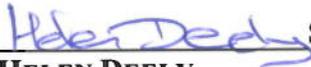
You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal 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 will be removed to protect confidentiality where applicable.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

23RD MARCH, 2017.

Appendix A – Paid Fixed Charge Notices Parking/Stopping in a Disabled Parking Bay

Division	Offence	Year	Number	Amount		
Cavan/Monaghan	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	44	€3,800.00		
		2015	49	€4,080.00		
		2016	21	€1,760.00		
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	1	€80.00		
		2015	3	€240.00		
		2016	2	€160.00		
Clare	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	76	€6,560.00		
		2015	72	€5,960.00		
		2016	47	€4,080.00		
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2015	1	€120.00		
		Cork City	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	245	€20,960.00
				2015	125	€10,880.00
2016	127			€10,720.00		
Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014		1	€80.00		
	2015		5	€400.00		
	Cork North		Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	71	€5,960.00
2015		74		€6,120.00		
2016		52		€4,440.00		
Stopped in a Disabled Bay		2014	4	€400.00		
		2015	3	€280.00		
		2016	1	€80.00		
Cork West	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	25	€2,240.00		
		2015	31	€2,600.00		
		2016	22	€1,840.00		
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	4	€320.00		
		2015	1	€80.00		
		2016	1	€80.00		
D.M.R. Eastern	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	26	€2,160.00		
		2015	29	€2,480.00		
		2016	40	€3,360.00		
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	1	€120.00		
		2016	2	€160.00		
		D.M.R. North Central	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	19	€1,520.00
2015	23			€1,960.00		
2016	15			€1,320.00		
Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014		3	€240.00		
	2015		3	€240.00		
	2016		2	€160.00		
D.M.R. Northern	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	63	€5,280.00		
		2015	45	€3,760.00		

Division	Offence	Year	Number	Amount
D.M.R. South Central	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2016	65	€5,400.00
		2014	1	€80.00
	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	2	€200.00
		2014	72	€6,240.00
		2015	48	€4,200.00
		2016	29	€2,360.00
		2014	4	€320.00
D.M.R. Southern	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2015	1	€80.00
		2016	1	€80.00
	2014	10	€840.00	
	2015	7	€600.00	
D.M.R. Western	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	20	€1,720.00
		2014	71	€6,240.00
		2015	65	€5,680.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2016	129	€10,760.00
		2015	3	€240.00
Donegal	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	2	€160.00
		2014	27	€2,320.00
		2015	11	€920.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2016	44	€3,680.00
		2015	1	€80.00
		2016	1	€80.00
Galway Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	172	€14,600.00
		2015	191	€16,640.00
		2016	123	€10,560.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	8	€720.00
		2015	17	€1,440.00
		2016	14	€1,160.00
Kerry	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	27	€2,400.00
		2015	16	€1,440.00
		2016	36	€3,000.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	3	€240.00
		2016	2	€160.00
Kildare Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	35	€2,960.00
		2015	35	€2,960.00
		2016	55	€4,840.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2015	1	€80.00
		2016	6	€480.00
Kilkenny/Carlow	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	36	€3,200.00
		2015	42	€3,520.00
		2016	34	€2,920.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	1	€80.00

Division	Offence	Year	Number	Amount
Laois/Offaly	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2015	1	€120.00
		2016	2	€160.00
		2014	31	€2,720.00
		2015	45	€3,760.00
		2016	50	€4,120.00
		2014	3	€280.00
Limerick	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2015	2	€160.00
		2014	161	€13,520.00
		2015	169	€14,280.00
		2016	178	€14,800.00
		2014	3	€240.00
		2015	19	€1,600.00
Louth Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	8	€680.00
		2014	8	€640.00
		2015	5	€400.00
Mayo	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	9	€800.00
		2014	44	€3,640.00
		2015	20	€1,720.00
Meath Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	32	€2,720.00
		2014	33	€2,840.00
		2015	24	€2,000.00
Roscommon/Longford Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	22	€1,800.00
		2014	65	€5,320.00
		2015	80	€6,760.00
		2016	50	€4,080.00
		2014	1	€80.00
		2015	12	€1,000.00
Sligo/Leitrim	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	4	€320.00
		2014	10	€840.00
		2015	10	€840.00
		2016	10	€840.00
		2014	1	€120.00
		2015	1	€80.00
Tipperary	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	42	€3,640.00
		2015	54	€4,800.00
		2016	35	€2,840.00
		2015	1	€80.00
Waterford Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2016	2	€160.00
		2014	31	€2,600.00
		2015	40	€3,360.00
		2016	39	€3,240.00
		2014	2	€160.00

Division	Offence	Year	Number	Amount
Westmeath Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	73	€6,200.00
		2015	79	€6,800.00
		2016	25	€2,160.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	3	€240.00
		2015	1	€80.00
		2016	1	€80.00
Wexford Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	40	€3,480.00
		2015	30	€2,560.00
		2016	58	€4,880.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	1	€80.00
		2015	1	€80.00
		2016	2	€160.00
Wicklow Div	Parked in a Disabled Bay	2014	29	€2,320.00
		2015	26	€2,240.00
		2016	26	€2,120.00
	Stopped in a Disabled Bay	2014	2	€160.00