

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000438-2017 Request Partially Granted

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 9th October 2017 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 my office was in contact with you to clarify your request in this regard.

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: *The total cost so far in relation to Garda training in relation to the new road side drug testing laws which were introduced into Ireland.*
- 2: *The number of Garda who have been trained so far on these courses.*
- 3: *Details of what counties have availed of the Garda training courses in relation to the drug testing'.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to partially grant your request on the 6th November, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Part 1 of your request seeks *'the total cost so far in relation to Garda training in relation to the new road side drug testing laws which were introduced into Ireland'*. I can now advise you that there were no costs incurred by An Garda Síochána as a result of training in relation to the new road side drug testing laws. Training was conducted under the Garda Síochána Professional Development Training and the Medical Bureau of Road Safety did not charge for the training provided.

In respect of Part 2 of your request wherein you seek *'The number of Garda who have been trained so far on these courses'*, I can advise you that 1,774 (as of the 22nd September 2017) Garda personnel have received training to test for drugs at the roadside using the Drager 5000 Drug Test Device.

A 'Train the Trainers' course was provided to 70 Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Trainers nationwide to facilitate this training. The 'Train the Trainers' course was provided jointly by the Medical Bureau of Road Safety and the Garda College.

The Medical Bureau of Road Safety provided the training in respect of the use of the Drager Drugtest 5000 equipment and the Garda College provided training in respect of the legislation and policy.

I can also advise you that 2,067 members of An Garda Síochána nationwide have received training in conducting Impairment Testing (figures correct as of 22nd September 2017). The power to conduct an Impairment Test is provided under Section 11 of the Road Traffic Act, 2010, as amended, which permit members of An Garda Síochána to require a driver to perform a number of tests in order for the member to establish if the driver is committing an offence. These provisions have been further extended by the Road Traffic Act, 2016 which permits members of An Garda Síochána to perform an Impairment Test following arrest in respect of certain road traffic offences.

Part 3 of your request is seeking the *'Details of what counties have availed of the Garda training courses in relation to the drug testing'*. Please see Appendix A attached which outlines the number of Gardaí in each Garda Divisions who have received training to date. It should be noted that the Garda Divisions do not necessarily align the county borders and some Garda Divisions comprise of more than one county. In accordance with this geographical layout, the information provided is on a Divisional basis and may not be specific to one county in certain circumstances.

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-000438-2017**.

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-000438-2017) 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 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**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

6th **NOVEMBER 2017**

**Number of Garda personnel trained to test for drugs at the roadside using the
Drager 5000 Drug Test Device by Garda Division.**

Region	Division	No. of personnel trained
DMR	DMR North	14
	DMR South	32
	DMR East	32
	DMR West	25
	DMR North-Central	44
	DMR South-Central	160
	DMR Traffic	57
	Total	364
Northern Region	Donegal	99
	Sligo / Leitrim	19
	Cavan / Monaghan	91
	Louth	13
	Total	222
Southern Region	Cork City	88
	Cork North	20
	Cork West	117
	Kerry	70
	Limerick	110
	Total	405
Eastern Region	Meath	112
	Wicklow	44
	Kildare	11
	Laois / Offaly	38
	Westmeath	59
	Total	264
Western Region	Clare	139
	Galway	89
	Mayo	28
	Roscommon / Longford	61
	Total	317
South-Eastern	Kilkenny / Carlow	53
	Tipperary	2
	Waterford	91
	Wexford	56
	Total	202
	Total Nationwide	1,774