

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise
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-000438-2016

Dear ,

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 2nd December 2016 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 Freedom of Information Act 2014 states that An Garda Síochána is listed as a partially included agency “insofar as it relates to administrative records relating to human resources, finance or procurement matters”. Therefore, only administrative records that relate to human resources, finance or procurement shall be considered.

Your request is shown below:-

- 1. How much money have An Garda Síochána spent on new vehicles (including cars, vans and any other vehicles purchased by the force) each year since 2010?*
- 2. How many new vehicles have been purchased each year since 2010? Could you break this down into how many cars, how many vans, motorbikes, etc?*
- 3. How many bicycles have been purchased each year since 2010?*
- 4. How much money has been spent each year since 2010 on the upkeep and maintenance of Garda vehicles, including petrol costs, repairs, and any other costs incurred in running Garda vehicles?*

I have now made a decision to grant your request on 21st December 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. An explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is denied:
2. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions.

Section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act states that:

- (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*

In this regard, I am refusing Parts 1 & 4 of your request wherein you sought:

- 1. How much money have An Garda Síochána spent on new vehicles (including cars, vans and any other vehicles purchased by the force) each year since 2010?
4. How much money has been spent each year since 2010 on the upkeep and maintenance of Garda vehicles, including petrol costs, repairs, and any other costs incurred in running Garda vehicles?*

This information is currently available on the Freedom of Information publication scheme which is on the Garda website. You may access the Publication Scheme by following the attached link:- <http://garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=15991>

Part 2 of your request sought 'how many new vehicles have been purchased each year since 2010? Could you break this down into how many cars, how many vans, motorbikes, etc'.

Following a search within the Finance Directorate, I can now advise you the following records have been identified.

Table A outlines the number of new vehicles allocated to the Garda Fleet between the 1st January 2010 and the 6th December 2016. A record does not exist for the years 2010 to 2014 inclusive as to the vehicle type purchased and allocated. Therefore I am refusing this part of your request. Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act 2014 is as follows:

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,*

Table B below outlines the vehicles allocated to the Garda fleet during 2015 and up to the 6th December 2016 broken down by vehicle type.

Table A: New vehicles allocated to the Garda Fleet 2010 – 06/12/16

Year	*Vehicles Allocated
2010	50
2011	189
2012	85
2013	305
2014	457
2015	493
2016 (06/12/16)	554

**Note a timing difference can occur from when a vehicle is purchased and when it is allocated due to the necessary fit out of vehicles with signage, electrical works etc*

Table B: New vehicles allocated to the Garda Fleet 1/1/2015 to 6/12/16.

Year	CARS		VANS	MOTORCYCLES	4X4	OTHER	Total
	Marked	Unmarked					
2016 (06/12/16)	105	201	135	61	34	18	554
2015	217	207	49	1	2	17	493

Part 3 of your request sought 'how many bicycles have been purchased each year since 2010?'. I can now advise you that there were no purchases of mountain bikes from 2010-2014. A tender for additional bikes was completed in 2015 from which 100 bicycles were purchased in November 2015. There have been no purchases to date (19th December 2016) in 2016.

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-000438-2016**

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-000438-2016) 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.

22nd **DECEMBER, 2016**