

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála 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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000005-2017 Granted

Dear

I refer to your request dated 11th January 2017 and received 12th January 2017 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. Records that relate to the functions and management of the organisation are restricted.

Your request sought:

‘The amount of money An Garda Síochána has spent for towing services in the years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

These records should be broken down by year and by Garda Region, and should detail the total cost per annum An Garda Síochána has paid for towing services.’

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 26th January 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

On receipt of your request, the Finance Directorate was contacted in order to identify the records relating to the costs of towing services in 2012, 2013 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Seirbhísí gairmiúla póilíneachta agus slándála a sholáthar le hiontaoibh, muinín agus tacaíocht na ndaoine ar a bhfreastalaímid

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Please see table below which outlines how much has been spent on towing services broken down by region and years 2012 to 2016.

Region	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Grand Total
DMR (GPD MR)	€ 1,460,332	€ 1,004,467	€ 1,032,687	€ 1,115,078	€ 1,439,963	€ 6,052,527
Eastern (GPEST)	€ 529,313	€ 480,073	€ 570,538	€ 849,962	€ 1,357,854	€ 3,787,741
Northern (GPNT H)	€ 635,013	€ 875,329	€ 762,195	€ 970,527	€ 1,143,658	€ 4,386,722
South Eastern (GPSET)	€ 278,936	€ 324,272	€ 708,008	€ 927,729	€ 1,097,150	€ 3,336,094
Southern (GPST H)	€ 825,257	€ 725,829	€ 796,376	€ 859,274	€ 1,157,923	€ 4,364,660
Western (GPWST)	€ 608,838	€ 537,721	€ 541,065	€ 787,129	€ 1,009,453	€ 3,484,206
GHQ & National Services	€ 43,760	€ 417,543	€ 9,808	€ 3,499	18,355	€492,968
Grand Total	€ 4,381,449	€ 4,365,236	€ 4,420,677	€ 5,513,198	€ 7,224,356	€ 25,904,916

Towing fees include all vehicles detained under Section 41 of the Road Traffic Act 1994, official Garda vehicles and other vehicles seized or transported by An Garda Síochána for investigative, evidential and technical examination purposes. These figures include sums paid to non contracted firms who had been requested to remove a vehicle in an emergency situation or in cases where the location of the vehicle presented a danger to other road user's required immediate removal. The increase in fees paid from 2015 to 2016 relates to legacy payments from 2014/2015 and an increase in enforcement. The increase in enforcement from 2015 to 2016 resulted in an increase of 7,209 vehicles detained during 2016.

Details relating to Section 41 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 is available at the following URL for your ease of reference: <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1994/act/7/section/41/enacted/en/html>.

The number of incidents where vehicles were detained under Section 41 are published on the Garda Website at <http://www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=1368&Lang=1>

2. Right of Appeal

In the event that you are not happy with this decision you may seek an Internal Review by writing to the address below and quoting reference number **FOI-000005-2017**.

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.

Seirbhísí gairmiúla póilíneachta agus slándála a sholáthar le hiontaoibh, muinín agus tacaíocht na ndaoine ar a bhfreastalaímid

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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-000005-2017.) 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.

31st **JANUARY 2017**