

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise
An Garda Síochána
Teach áth Luimnigh
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail
Baile Sheáin
An Uaimh
Contae na Mí



Freedom of Information Office
An Garda Síochána
Athlumney House
IDA Business Park
Johnstown
Navan
Co Meath

Teileafón/Tel:

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000032-2016

Dear :

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and your submission to An Garda Síochána dated 22nd January 2016 and received on 22nd January 2016.

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, or finance or procurement matters.”* Therefore, only administrative records that relate to human resources, finance or procurement shall be considered.

Your request sought:

“The total costs of security for the Taoiseach on all domestic and international trips since January, 1, 2015 to January, 11, 2016.

This should include a list of all trips where security was required as well as a breakdown of costs incurred and the dates on which these trips occurred.

Names can be redacted for data protection.”

I wish to inform you that I am refusing your request under Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act which states an FOI request may be refused if:

“the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken”.

The information you have sought is not available within the Finance Directorate of An Garda Síochána. However, in keeping with the Government’s commitment under the Programme for National Recovery 2011-2016, revised arrangements for Ministerial transport were implemented in May and June 2011.

A Financial Management System expenditure report was prepared by the Finance Directorate for the cost of the Ministerial Pool for 2015. This represents the total expenditure for maintaining the

Ministerial Pool which provides transportation services for 6 Office holders. These Office holders include:

- President
- Taoiseach
- Tánaiste
- Minister for Justice and Equality
- Director for Public Prosecutions
- Chief Justice

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of costs by office holder on the Financial Management System. However, I am in a position to advise you that the annual cost of the Garda Ministerial Pool in 2015 was €2.14 million.

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 **F01-000032-2016**.

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: BOFIIIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number 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.

11th February 2016