

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

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Mr. Paul Healy

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000027-2017. Request Partially Granted.

Dear Mr. Healy,

I refer to your request dated and received on 31st 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:

I am seeking the total fuel costs of the Tánaiste's State car from the dates January 1st 2016 to December 31st 2016.

As part of these records I am seeking a monthly breakdown of these fuel costs.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to partially grant your request on 15th February 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 sought by you.

I advise that I am granting the first part of your request seeking the total fuel costs for the Tánaiste's State vehicles. I advise that the Tánaiste is provided with a primary and reserve

vehicle and the total fuel costs from the 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2016 was €5,489.20. It should be noted that there were two Tánaistí in the period of your request.

These fuel costs are calculated by the actual number of kilometres travelled by each vehicle in the period, the average fuel consumption, and the agreed cost per litre with the fuel supplier.

I wish to inform you that I am refusing part 2 of your request ‘*seeking a monthly breakdown of these fuel costs*’ under Section 15(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act.

I advise that drivers are assigned to the Tánaiste’s vehicle from the Ministerial Pool which operates on a rostered basis. Each of these drivers holds an official fuel card with more than one supplier in their own name. In the course of a roster, a driver may be required to drive and fuel multiple vehicles.

In order to establish the monthly expenditure on fuel it would require the identification of the driver assigned to the Tánaiste’s vehicle each day and examination of all invoices for fuel for that driver on the dates concerned.

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—

(c) in the opinion of the head, granting the request would, by reason of the number or nature of the records concerned or the nature of the information concerned, require the retrieval and examination of such number of records or an examination of such kind of the records concerned as to cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with or disruption of work (including disruption of work in a particular functional area) of the FOI body concerned,

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-000027-2017**.

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-0000027-2017.) 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.

22nd FEBRUARY 2017