

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

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**Mr. Darragh McDonagh**

## **Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000280-2017 Request Granted**

*Dear Mr. McDonagh,*

I refer to your request, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 and received on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017, 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.

As previously advised in my correspondence dated, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017, your original request was separated into 3 individual requests and each request was assigned a unique request number.

In respect of FOI request 000280-2017, your request sought:

*"A record stating the total amount spent by An Garda Síochána on English language classes at Templemore College during each of the years 2014, 2015 and 2016; along with details of the number of persons who attended such classes in each of those years"*

I have now made a decision to grant your request on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.**

On receipt of your request, a search was conducted in the Finance Section of the Garda Training College in Templemore.

1

An Garda Síochána organises English Language Programmes as part of a Framework Partnership Agreement with CEPOL, the European College of Policing. CEPOL is an agency of the European Union dedicated to develop, implement and coordinate training for law enforcement officials. CEPOL's official name is 'The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training'. CEPOL brings together a network of training institutes for law enforcement officials in EU Member States and supports them in providing frontline training on security priorities, law enforcement cooperation and information exchange. CEPOL also works with EU bodies, international organisations, and third countries to ensure that the most serious security threats are tackled with a collective response.

The funding for the language programmes provided in the Garda College is subject to a Grant Agreement process whereby CEPOL funds the hosting of the programmes. An Garda Síochána provides staff and expertise in facilitating these programmes, however, all programme costs are funded by CEPOL and not from the Garda Vote.

The course is titled *Language Development: Instruments and Systems of European Police Cooperation*. This course is targeted at senior police officers involved in cross-border cooperation in operational or educational areas. The course increases the participants English language skills and their knowledge of the different European police systems in order to improve cooperation between law enforcement authorities. The participants learn to communicate in English in a more efficient way in a professional environment including the use of police, legal and technical vocabulary in this language. Participants in the programme have included representatives from law enforcement from Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain.

Please see table below which outlines the number of language courses which took place in Templemore for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016. Also identified are the costs and the number of participants who availed of these programmes. You will note that two language courses were facilitated by the Garda College in 2015 and 2016.

Year	Number of Participants	Cost of Language Programme
2014	27	€64,834.87
2015	29	€63,150.57
2015	28	€62,521.45
2016	28	€67,016.24
2016	30	€77,073.16

## 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 **F01-000280- 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 your FOI reference number FOI-000280-2017 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](http://www.garda.ie).

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Deely SUPERINTENDENT

**HELEN DEELY**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICE**

13<sup>th</sup> July 2017