

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

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000504-2017 Request Refused

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 6th November, 2017 and received on the 7th November, 2017 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána. I further refer to the clarification of your request on the 9th November, 2017 accordingly your request has now been amended.

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.

Your request sought:

Original Request:

Under the freedom of information act 2014, I would like to know how much money your emergency services spend each year on vehicle related accidents.

Clarified Request:

I would like to know about the at 2016 please.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 9th November, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

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

I am refusing your request on administrative grounds under section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act wherein you sought ‘*Under the freedom of information act 2014, I would like to know how much money your emergency services spend each year on vehicle related accidents. I would like to know about the at 2016 please.*’ as the information is already in the public domain. This information can be accessed on the website of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General at the following URL:

<http://www.audgen.gov.ie/documents/annualreports/2016/appacc/en/vote%2020.pdf>

The information you have requested is available on page 28 of the Appropriation Account 2016 Vote 20 Garda Síochána entitled ‘*Statement of Losses (Garda Vehicles, etc.)*’.

All Garda members are aware of the law regarding the driving and use of emergency service vehicles to assist in the delivery of specific emergency services to the public. The necessity to provide such a service must also take account of the fundamental duty of care as set out under Health and Safety Legislation for employers, employees and volunteers. There are no circumstances when driving to an emergency that can justify actions which lead to death or injury of any person.

Drivers must give cognisance to the potential reactions of other road users to their presence on the road whether responding to an incident or on routine tasks. As with all services provided, driving tasks should be performed to a standard to ensure that the individual or organisation will not be subject to civil or criminal litigation. Drivers must know and understand the legislation and how it applies to each organisation in line with organisation specific driving policies.

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 **FOI-000504-2017**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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 FOI-000504-2017 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

 November, 2017.