

# 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

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

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

Bí linn/Join us  

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

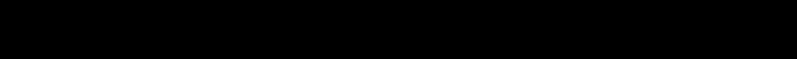
## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000053-2018 Request Refused

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2018 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.

Your request sought:

 *and am hoping you can help me find some statistics on the number of arrests or convictions relating to prostitution following the Sexual Offences Act 2017. We are specifically interested in arrests/convictions of buyers of sex, operators of brothel-keepers and pimps. These were specifically criminalised in the 2017 bill and it would be good to see how it's going as part of our Irish work.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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

Section 6(2)(a) of the FOI Act provides that an entity specified in Schedule 1, Part 1 of the Act shall, subject to the provisions of that Part, be a public body for the purposes of the FOI

1

Act. Schedule 1, Part 1 contains details of bodies that are partially included for the purposes of the FOI Act and also details of the certain specified records that are excluded. If the records sought come within the description of the exclusions of Part 1, then the FOI Act does not apply and no right of access exists.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act provides that An Garda Síochána is not a public body for the purposes of the FOI Act other than in relation to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters.

The term “administrative records” is understood to mean records relating to the processes of running and managing a business or organisation. As a result, the FOI Act excludes operational policing business as opposed to the defined administrative processes of An Garda Síochána.

The records that you sought relate to operational policing matters carried out by An Garda Síochána, as opposed to administrative matters relating to human resources, or finance or procurement.

I am therefore refusing your request as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as the records do not meet the criteria of administrative records as defined in the Act.

However, in respect of your request I wish to inform you that the Central Statistics Office (CSO) publishes official statistics relating to crime in Ireland among which there is material relevant to your request. This information is available to the public free of charge on the CSO website:

[http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/DATABASE/Eirestat/Recorded%20Crime/Recorded%20Crime\\_statbank.asp?sp=Recorded%20Crime&Planguage=0](http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/DATABASE/Eirestat/Recorded%20Crime/Recorded%20Crime_statbank.asp?sp=Recorded%20Crime&Planguage=0)

Alternatively, you can submit your request in writing to the following address: Olive Loughnane or Sam Scriven Statistician, Crime & Criminal Justice Statistics Section, Central Statistics Office, Skehard Road, Cork, Ireland or by telephone at 021 4535281 or 4535276.

## **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-000053-2018**.

**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:** IE86BOFI90001710026896  
**BIC:** BOFIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000053-2018 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 have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

  
**SUPERINTENDENT**  
**SHARON KENNEDY**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

01 FEBRUARY, 2018.