

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-000143-2018 Request Part Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 3rd April, 2018 and received on 4th April, 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:

- 1: The number of gardaí who are currently trained here in Ireland to carry out road-side drug tests*
- 2: A breakdown of the divisions where gardaí have been trained or in which county.*
- 3: The number of garda stations and locations which have been given drug testing equipment.*
- 4: The number of drug tests conducted since the introduction of the new laws up to end of March 2018.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 30th April, 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision to deny access

Upon receipt, details of your request were forwarded to the Garda National Roads Policing Bureau who conducted a search for the records you have requested.

Upon review of the records provided to this Office I have decided to grant Part 1 of your request wherein you seek '*The number of gardaí who are currently trained here in Ireland to carry out road-side drug tests*'. Please note that only figures up to the 14th February 2018 are currently held centrally. As of the 14th February 2018, 3,145 Gardaí have received training to test for drugs at the roadside using the Drager 5000 Drug Test Device. Training is on-going in each Garda Division.

A 'Train the Trainers' course was provided to 70 Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Trainers nationwide to facilitate this training. The 'Train the Trainers' course was provided jointly by the Medical Bureau of Road Safety and the Garda College.

The Medical Bureau of Road Safety provided the training in respect of the use of the Drager Drugtest 5000 equipment and the Garda College provided training in respect of the legislation and policy.

I have decided to grant Part 2 of your request wherein you seek '*A breakdown of the divisions where gardaí have been trained or in which county*'. Please see Appendix A attached which outlines the number of Gardaí in each Garda Division who have received training up to and including the 14th February 2018.

I have decided to refuse Part 3 and Part 4 of your request wherein you seek:

3: The number of garda stations and locations which have been given drug testing equipment.

4: The number of drug tests conducted since the introduction of the new laws up to end of March 2018.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1

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 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. I am therefore refusing Parts 3 and 4 of your request as the records you have requested relate to operational policing matters which

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.

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-000143-2018**.

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-000143-2018 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

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

30 APRIL, 2018

APPENDIX A

Breakdown of Gardaí trained to carry out roadside drug testing per Region and Division

Training in respect of roadside drugs testing is ongoing. The following table shows the number of Garda personnel who have received training in each Region by Garda Division (figures as of 14.02.2018)

Region	Division	No. of personnel trained
DMR	DMR North	14
	DMR South	58
	DMR East	52
	DMR West	25
	DMR North-Central	33
	DMR South-Central	330
	DMR Traffic	58
	Total	570
Northern Region	Donegal	137
	Sligo / Leitrim	32
	Cavan / Monaghan	129
	Louth	66
	Total	364
Southern Region	Cork City	103
	Cork North	92
	Cork West	215
	Kerry	92
	Limerick	110
	Total	612
Eastern Region	Meath	117
	Wicklow	51
	Kildare	48
	Laois / Offaly	55
	Westmeath	82
	Total	353
Western Region	Clare	186
	Galway	185
	Mayo	125
	Roscommon / Longford	157
	Total	653
South-Eastern	Kilkenny / Carlow	228
	Tipperary	83
	Waterford	178
	Wexford	104
	Total	593
Total Nationwide		3,145