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 ND62



Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co Meath. C15 ND62

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-000023-2023 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 18th January, 2023 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:

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 please.

- What is the highest mileage Garda patrol car on the roads? Or that has recently been taken off the road?
- How much was spent on new cars in 2022, 2021 and 2020?
- A breakdown of cars purchased?
- How many seized cars were reused by an Garda Siochana last year and in 2021, 2020?

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 25th January, 2023.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt of your request, a search was conducted by Garda Fleet Management Section and a number of records have been identified in this regard.

As stated above, An Garda Síochána is defined as a partially included agency for the purposes of the FOI Act. Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the 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.

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.

As a result, I must refuse both part 1 and part 4 of your request where you have sought details of vehicle mileage and details of the number of vehicles seized by Garda members. Neither of these parts of your request refer to administrative matters relating to finance, procurement, or human resources. Therefore both part one and part four are outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it relates to An Garda Síochána and are refused in accordance with Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the Act.

In respect of parts two and three of your request, I am refusing the release of records for 2020 and 2021. The information sought for both of these years is published in the Garda Annual Report and is also available on the Garda website at

www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/finance-services/finance-fleet-management.html and

www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/finance-services/finance-fleetmanagement.html

For 2022, I have been advised that a total of 454 vehicles where purchased at a cost of €16.8 million, with the following breakdown of vehicles purchased

Purchased in 2022	Cars	Vans	4 x 4	Motorbikes	Total
Total	403	35	4	12	454

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-000023-2023.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62

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: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

Account Number: 30000302

Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302

BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000023-2023) 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

_ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

JANUARY, 2023.