

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-000242-2022 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 29th June, 2022 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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I request the following:

- a. *The number of Garda Síochána stations in which adequate and functioning electronic recording equipment that has not been provided with and installed for the purpose of recording interviews under the Criminal Justice Act, 1984 (Electronic Recording Of Interviews) Regulations, 1997 Regulations;*
- b. *The amount spent by An Garda Síochána on electronic recording equipment for the purpose of recording interviews under the 1997 Regulations in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015;*
- c. *The amount spent by An Garda Síochána on training for members in each of the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 on the usage of electronic recording equipment for the purpose of recording interviews.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to **part-grant** your request on the 20th July, 2022.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were forwarded to the relevant sections of An Garda Síochána where searches were conducted in respect of same.

As previously outlined above, 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. The records sought in the first part of your request relate to operational policing and do not constitute an administrative record relating to human resources, finance or procurement. I am therefore refusing Part A of your request as this information falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it pertains to An Garda Síochána.

The second part of your request sought "*The amount spent by An Garda Síochána on electronic recording equipment for the purpose of recording interviews under the 1997 Regulations in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015*". The table below provide the details requested.

Year	Spend on Equipment	Other*	Support & Maintenance
2015	10,193.54	-	96,888.44
2016	675,792.35	-	86,775.40
2017	72,576.62	1,106.63	148,808.43
2018	23,660.63	-	163,424.20
2019	15,697.08	2,111.66	165,283.64
2020	32,287.94	2,809.13	59,140.59
2021	107,667.58	6,460.37	132,116.87
2022	-	686.68	81,321.78

* Other (relocation, re-installation, etc.)

In accordance with Section 15 (1)(a) of the FOI Act I am refusing the last part of your request. We have been advised by the relevant Section that there is no system in place to extrapolate specific training costs for particular training courses. Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)(a) *the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken*

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-000242-2022**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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-000242-2022) 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

20th **JULY, 2022.**