

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000425-2018 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 15th October, 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. How many members of An Garda Síochána are currently trained/qualified to train members of the Roads Policing Unit in the use of speed detection devices?*
- 2. If there are none, when did they cease to be available and was this through retirement or resignation?*
- 3. If there are none, when is it envisaged to recruit or employ them?*
- 4. When was the last time any training in the use of speed detection devices was given to any member of any Roads Policing Unit?*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 12th November 2018. I have numbered your request for ease of reference.

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The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

On receipt of your email, your request was forwarded to the Garda College in Templemore and also to the Roads Policing Unit in Garda Headquarters seeking information in relation to same.

The first part of your request is seeking *How many members of An Garda Síochána are currently trained/qualified to train members of the Roads Policing Unit in the use of speed detection devices?*

The present speed gun was introduced to An Garda Síochána in the mid 2000's. Following the introduction of same, a number of people received a train the trainer's course. These were both traffic personnel and members of the Continued Professional Development. These trainers then trained Garda personnel nationally. The number of members currently qualified as trainers in speed detection devices is 23.

Parts 2 and 3 of your request is seeking *If there are none, when did they cease to be available and was this through retirement or resignation?* and *If there are none, when is it envisaged to recruit or employ them?*

I would draw your attention to Section 11 of the FOI Act which provides for a right of access to records held by FOI bodies. Requests for information are therefore not valid requests under the Act, as opposed to requests for records. FOI bodies are not required to create records under the Act if none exist and it does not oblige FOI bodies to answer general queries nor provide a mechanism for answering questions, except to the extent that a question can reasonably be inferred to be a request for records which contain the answer to the question asked or the information sought.

Part 4 of your request is seeking information on *When was the last time any training in the use of speed detection devices was given to any member of any Roads Policing Unit?* Training in the use of speed detection devices was most recently sought in 2018. The application for such training is currently under review and sanction is awaited for same.

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-000425-2018**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, 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-000425-2018) 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

12 NOVEMBER, 2018.