

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Faisnéise
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

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Mr. Adam Higgins

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000069-2017. Refusal

Dear Mr. Higgins,

I refer to your request, dated 22nd February 2017 and received on the 23rd February 2017, 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 body worn cameras do An Garda Síochána own?*
- 2. What is the policy around which gardai wear them and when? Is it just random or are gardai on the street beat required to wear them?*
- 3. What types of cameras are used and how many of each do the force have?*
- 4. How much do the cameras cost per camera?*
- 5. What is the policy for reviewing the footage taped on a body worn camera?*
- 6. Do An Garda Síochána have a film team they use to edit or review footage?*
- 7. If No.6 is correct, how much did garda spend on the video review/edit team last year?*
- 8. How many body worn cameras were bought each year since 2010?*

Seirbhísí gairmiúla póilíneachta agus slándála a sholáthar le hiontaoibh, muinín agus tacaíocht na ndaoine ar a bhfreastalaímid

To deliver professional policing and security services with the trust, confidence and support of the people we serve

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 9th March 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. An explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is denied:
2. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

As previously advised, An Garda Síochána is a partially included agency under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 "*insofar as it relates to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters*". In this regard, I am to advise you that I am refusing parts 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 of your request under as the records sought by you are concerned with operational policing matters which do not come within the ambit of this partially included agency as set out in Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

The details sought in parts 4, 6 & 8 of your request were forwarded to the Finance Directorate within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search of their records. I am now to inform you that I am refusing parts 4, 6 & 8 of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

- 15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –*
- (a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken.*

No records have been identified in the Finance Directorate in respect of parts 4, 6 & 8 of your request.

However, a working group has been established to examine the deployment of body worn cameras in An Garda Síochána. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Corporate Communications by email at pressoffice@garda.ie.

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 **F01-000069-2017**.

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: IE86B0F190001710026896

BIC: BOFIIIE2D

You must ensure your FOI reference number 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**
HELEN DEELY.
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

10th MARCH 2017