

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

**Ms Jessica Casey,
The Irish Examiner.**

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000083-2017 Request Granted

Dear Ms. Casey,

I refer to your request, dated and received on 27th 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 Freedom of Information Act 2014 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 is shown below:

‘ All material which shows the cost of policing each city in Ireland from the last year, broken down by each area of each city ’

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 20th March 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

On receipt of your request, the Finance Directorate of An Garda Síochána conducted a search of their records and the following records have been identified.

An Garda Síochána operate on a Divisional basis and the information received by the Finance Directorate is broken down in this regard. The policing of Dublin City and County falls under the remit of the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) which is commanded by an Assistant Commissioner. The DMR is divided into six (6) Divisions each commanded by a Chief Superintendent. Each of the six divisions has responsibility for the policing of an area which is defined by operational needs and may span both city and county areas. It is therefore not possible to identify the costs specifically for the policing of Dublin City.

The DMR is also policed by the DMR Traffic Section based at Dublin Castle.

I advise that the costs incurred by the DMR for policing in 2016 is broken down by Division which is detailed in Table A below.

Table A:

Division	Total Expenditure €
DMR North Central	52,997,500.19
DMR East	27,878,409.21
DMR North	57,145,298.47
DMR South	42,446,653.04
DMR Traffic	9,933,977.46
DMR West	56,598,925.72
DMR South Central	60,535,282.21

Table B below outlines the cost of policing for the four other Divisions containing the cities of Cork, Kilkenny, Limerick and Galway.

As previously advised in respect of the DMR Region, An Garda Síochána operates on a Divisional basis. The Divisions listed below incorporate the main cities of Ireland and it is therefore not possible to identify the costs specifically for the policing of each of the cities as requested. As a result, the figures below include the county areas of their Division as per the DMR Region. However, Cork City is an isolated Division and the cost outlined below does not incorporate the cost of policing for County Cork.

Table B:

Division	Total Expenditure €
Cork City	46,085,154.64
Kilkenny	22,338,319.79
Limerick	41,131,497.83
Galway	43,071,415.67

The categories inclusive in the policing costs of the above cities are listed below and are provided to the Comptroller and Auditor General for the publication of the appropriation accounts:

- Salaries, wages and allowances
- Travel and subsistence

- Training and development and incidental expenses
- Postal and Telecommunications Services
- Office Equipment and External IT Services
- Maintenance of Garda premises
- Consultancy services and value for money and policy reviews
- Station Services
- Garda Reserve

In addition, the nature of Garda work and the requirement that the Garda authorities respond, in some cases at short notice, to immediate policing demands means that there is a necessity to incur overtime expenses to ensure effective policing. Accordingly, there will always be a need for a certain level of overtime to allow An Garda Síochána flexibility when responding to circumstances that require additional resources for specific operations. These additional resources will have to be over and above those available from Gardaí on rostered duty thus ensuring the continuation of normal policing.

Garda personnel assigned throughout the country, together with overall policing arrangements and operational strategy, are continually monitored and reviewed and is determined by a number of factors including population, crime trends and as the policing needs of each individual division dictates. Such monitoring ensures that optimum use is made of Garda resources, and the best possible Garda service is provided to the general public.

In regard to the deployment of Garda personnel, a distribution model is used which takes into account all relevant factors including population, crime trends and as the policing needs of each individual Division dictates. It is the responsibility of the Divisional Officer to allocate personnel within his/her Division.

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-000083-2017**.

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: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that 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

 **MARCH 2017**