

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Mr. Eamon Patterson

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000118-2017 Request Part-Granted

Dear Mr. Patterson,

I refer to your request, dated and received on 22nd March 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) *The number of marked and unmarked Garda Vehicles allocated to the Garda Dog Unit in the years 2014,2015,2016 and to-date in 2017; the number of marked and unmarked Garda Vehicles allocated to the Garda Dog Unit that were withdrawn from the fleet in the years mentioned above*
- 2) *The number of Garda Mountain Bikes that were withdrawn from the Garda Fleet in the years 2013,2014,2015,2016 and to-date in 2017*
- 3) *The cost of operating the Garda Water Unit eg Staffing costs, repairs to Garda Boats etc in the years 2013,2014,2015,2016 and to-date in 2017*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to partially grant your request on the 18th April 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions.

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. In this regard, I am refusing parts 1 & 2 of your request as the information you are seeking does not relate to administrative records in respect of human resources, finance or procurement and is considered out of scope insofar as An Garda Síochána is concerned

Part 3 of your request is seeking 'the cost of operating the Garda Water Unit e.g. Staffing costs, repairs to Garda Boats etc in the years 2013,2014,2015,2016 and to-date in 2017'

The Garda Water Unit (GWU) provides an operational support and search capability to other Garda units and outside agencies in marine environments and hazardous locations. The Unit consists of two (2) operational teams based at Athlone, Co. Westmeath and Santry in the Dublin Metropolitan Region in order to ensure the ability to provide requested services nationally, in a timely manner. The Unit is regularly called upon to assist investigating Gardaí in cases such as murders, serious crime, missing persons and evidence recovery. In addition to underwater searches the Unit provides surface, water, patrols throughout the country and around the Irish coastline. The surface patrols involve the enforcement of marine legislation and the policing of major events taking place on, or near, the water.

Table 1 below shows the cost of maintaining the Garda Water Unit, on an annual basis, from 2013 to 2017 (March 31st). The figures provided below include salaries, allowances, and maintenance and repair costs associated with the Unit.

Table 1 **Garda Water Unit 2013 to 2017 (31st March)**

Garda Water Unit	Jan - March 2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Annual Cost	€329,877.14	€1,381,738.71	€1,244,069.13	€1,204,296.02	€1,239,297.74

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-000118- 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 FOI-000118-2017 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
~~LOUISE SYNNOT~~
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

18TH APRIL 2017