

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Bí linn/Join us



Ríomh-phoist:/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000522-2017 Request Refused

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2017, which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána. I refer further to email correspondence with my Office dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2017 in which you clarified your request as set out below.

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 initial request sought:**

*Annual statistics on the number of Garda vehicles that have been damaged while in use by on-duty Gardaí in the Republic of Ireland since 2003.*

### **Your clarified request sought:**

*Annual statistics on the number of Garda vehicles that have been damaged while in use by on-duty Gardaí in the Republic of Ireland since 2008.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

## 1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

A search for records containing the information you have requested was conducted by the Fleet Management Section of An Garda Síochána.

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to records are known as its exemption provisions.

Section 6(2)(a) of the FOI Act provides that an entity specified in Schedule 1, Part 1 of the Act shall, subject to the provisions of that Part, be a public body for the purposes of the FOI Act. Schedule 1, Part 1 contains details of bodies that are partially included for the purposes of the FOI Act and also details of the certain specified records that are excluded. If the records sought come within the description of the exclusions of Part 1, then the FOI Act does not apply and no right of access exists.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act provides that An Garda Síochána is not a public body for the purposes of the FOI Act other than in relation to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters.

The term “administrative records” is understood to mean records relating to the processes of running and managing a business or organisation.

I am therefore refusing your request as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as the records pertaining to the ‘*Annual statistics on the number of Garda vehicles that have been damaged while in use by on-duty Gardaí in the Republic of Ireland since 2008*’ do not meet the criteria of administrative records as defined in the Act.

However, in order to assist you, I wish to advise you that the information you have requested is already in the public domain. This information can be accessed in the Accounts of the Public Services (Appropriation Accounts) on the website of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General at the following URL:

<http://www.audgen.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=1&CatID=3&UserLang=EN&m=6>

The information you have requested is available under the heading entitled ‘*Statement of Losses (Garda Vehicles, etc.)*’ in Vote 20 Garda Síochána Appropriation Accounts to year ending 2016. This information relates to the number of accidents involving Garda vehicles.

## 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-000522-2017**.

**Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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 that your FOI reference number FOI-000522-2017 is included in the payment details.**

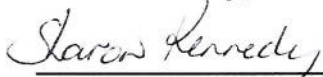
You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal 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](http://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**

04 **DECEMBER, 2017**