

# 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 ND62



Freedom of Information Office,  
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,  
IDA Business Park,  
Johnstown, Navan,  
Co Meath.  
C15 ND62

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350



Láithreán Gréasain/Website:  
[www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)

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

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000358-2020 Request Granted

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 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:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I am seeking the following:*

- *Records of the amount of money paid to individuals/firms last year and for the first nine months of this year for media training and PR services, and the number of Gardaí to receive media training last year and the first nine months of this year and their rank.*
- *Records of the number of PR firms who applied for the tender in 2019 and 2020 and how much the tender in each year was estimated to cost*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision**

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant sections of An Garda Síochána and a number of records have been provided to this Office.

In respect of the first part of your request, I can advise that to date in 2020, media training has not been provided, due to COVID-19. €17,491 has been spent to date in 2020 on the provision of PR services in respect of internal communications. These services were provided by The Communications Clinic.

In 2019 the total amount paid for media training and public relations services was €12,000, which was paid to The Communications Clinic for training of 36 Garda members.

The ranks were newly promoted Superintendent or Inspectors. There was one exception – a Chief Superintendent who was transferred to another position.

<b>Communications Clinic 2019</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Persons</b>	<b>Amount</b>
31/3/19	7 – Media Skills	2,450.00
30/5/19	6 – Media Skills	2,100.00
31/1/19	7 – Communications Training	2,100.00
31/8/19	2 – Communications Training	800.00
30/11/19	7 – Communications Training	2,450.00
31/12/19	7 – Communications Training in December – Paid in January 2020	2,100.00
	<b>Total spent in 2019</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>

In respect of the second part of your request, I can advise that a tender for media training was run in 2019. 3 responses were received to this tender and the contract was awarded to The Communications Clinic. The value of the contract at time of publication was estimated to be €100,000 over the 3 year term of the contract.

## **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-000358-2020**.

***Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62***

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:** An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

**Account Number:** 30000302

**Sort Code:** 951599

**IBAN:** IE28DABA95159930000302

**BIC:** DABAIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000358-2020) 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

  
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ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
PAUL BASSETT  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2020.