

# 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

Teilifón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Bí linn/Join us



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-000197-2020 Request Part Grant

*Dear .*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 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:

*I am seeking the following under the Freedom of Information Act -*

*The amount spent by the Gardai from the start of March to date on equipment to deal with Covid 19.*

*The amount paid by the Gardai to named third parties for named goods (and their quantity) in response to Covid 19*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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

On receipt your request was forwarded to the Finance Division of An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records in respect of your request. An Garda Síochána has purchased significant amounts of protective equipment and supplies. This equipment has been sourced in

1

order to protect Garda members and Staff as well as members of the public they interact with during this time. I can advise that to date €12,947,669 has been spent on Covid-19 related equipment. A list of the equipment purchased and the quantities purchased are attached.

### **Section 36 – Commercial Sensitive Information**

I am refusing the release of records detailing the amounts paid to suppliers in accordance with Section 36 (1)(b) of the Act

- (1) *Subject to subsection (2) a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if the record concerned contains –*
- (b) *financial, commercial, scientific or technical or other information whose disclosure could reasonably be expected to result in a material financial loss or gain to the person to whom the information relates, or could prejudice the competitive position of that person in the conduct of his or her profession or business or otherwise in his or her occupation’*

This exemption is being used to protect the companies whose commercially sensitive information is held in the enclosed records, for the provision of their services to An Garda Síochána. I am satisfied that the release of the amounts paid to suppliers along with quantities purchased could prejudice the competitive position of the suppliers by making the cost per unit publically known. This information therefore is commercially sensitive in accordance with the provisions of section 36 of the FOI Act.

I am cognisant of the fact that the release of information under the Act is, in essence, a release to the public at large. The pricing structure of the suppliers with regard to the services provided to An Garda Síochána is not known to competitors or the public in general. If the records were made available to you, it is reasonable to expect that it would prejudice the ability of the suppliers to compete in other contracts or negotiations in the future.

I am of the view that the release of the pricing structure could reasonably be expected to result in a material financial loss by the suppliers as it could prejudice their competitive position in the conduct of their business. The placing of these pricing structures into the public domain could also reasonably be expected to give a competitive advantage to other companies seeking similar contracts with public bodies.

I am satisfied that the release of the details involved could prejudice the competitive position of the companies named in the records provided and is commercially sensitive due to the fact that it exposes the fee structure of these companies.

As per section 36 of the FOI Act, I have considered the public interest issues which arise in this case and have taken account of the following factors in favour of release

- Ensuring openness and transparency of organisational functions to the greatest possible extent,
- The public interest in members of the public exercising their rights under the FOI Act,
- That there is more than just a transitory interest by the public in this information,
- Ensuring openness and transparency in the expenditure of public funds.

In considering the public interest factors which favour withholding the records, I have taken account of the following:



- The public interest is not best served by releasing these records,
- That the Organisation can conduct its business in a confidential manner,
- Protecting the vital interests of the business community,
- In not preventing or impeding a company from the effective pursuit of their legitimate business.

Having balanced the public interest factors both for and against the release, I decided that the public interest in preserving the information and the reasonable expectation that information can be maintained by An Garda Síochána without prejudicing future financial endeavors by external service providers outweighs the public interest which would be served were the records released to you.

I also have considered the provisions of section 36(2) and decided that they do not have any bearing on the decision as the overriding interest is to protect the sensitive commercial and financial information in this case.

## 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-000197-2020**.

**Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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:** Garda Síochána Finance Section Public Bank Account

**Account Number:** 10026896

**Sort Code:** 900017

**IBAN:** IE86BOFI90001710026896

**BIC:** BOFIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000197-2020 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,



**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

**PAUL BASSETT**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

26<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2020.

| Items                            | Supplier                            | Ordered        |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Hand Sanitiser 500ml             | Office Depot                        | 5,000          |
| 50 ml gel                        | Creative Activity                   | 20,000         |
| 1L                               | Creative Activity                   | 9,500          |
| Antibacterial spray 750ml        | Bunzi                               | 1200           |
| 500ml Bottles                    | Commercial Hygiene                  | 200            |
| 5lt Drums                        | JBS                                 | 1,280          |
| 300ml bottles                    | JBS                                 |                |
| <b>SANITISER - 25L</b>           | <b>WATERTECH</b>                    | <b>15,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>WATERTECH</b>                    | <b>15,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>WATERTECH</b>                    | <b>15,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>WATERTECH</b>                    | <b>15,000</b>  |
| <b>Sanitiser Total (to date)</b> |                                     | <b>97180</b>   |
| <b>SANITATION</b>                | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE<br/>TECH</b> |                |
| <b>Total</b>                     |                                     |                |
| <b>HSE MASKS</b>                 | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HSE (ALPHAR)</b>                 | <b>10,000</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     |                                     | <b>110,000</b> |
| <b>FFP1/2/3 FACEMASKS</b>        | <b>Portwest</b>                     | <b>1,000</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Portwest</b>                     | <b>1,380</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Portwest</b>                     | <b>62</b>      |
|                                  | <b>Portwest</b>                     | <b>4,000</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Portwest</b>                     | <b>20,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>Critical Healthcare Ltd</b>      | <b>40,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>Critical Healthcare Ltd</b>      | <b>200,000</b> |
|                                  | <b>Critical Healthcare Ltd</b>      | <b>200,000</b> |
|                                  | <b>Apex Scientific Ltd</b>          | <b>8,000</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Elite Safety Tech Ltd</b>        | <b>1,400</b>   |
|                                  | <b>Elite Safety Tech Ltd</b>        | <b>900</b>     |
|                                  | <b>Elite Safety Tech Ltd</b>        | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>MEDICAL SUPPLY</b>               | <b>16,960</b>  |
|                                  | <b>MED SURGICAL</b>                 | <b>19,200</b>  |
|                                  | <b>HEALTH CARE ESSENTIALS</b>       | <b>20,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>LENNOX LABS</b>                  | <b>5,000</b>   |
|                                  | <b>M.E.D. Surgical</b>              | <b>49,200</b>  |
|                                  | <b>JW Balfour</b>                   | <b>20,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>Creative Activity</b>            | <b>10,000</b>  |
|                                  | <b>Purepharm</b>                    | <b>5,500</b>   |
|                                  | <b>JBS</b>                          | <b>6,110</b>   |
|                                  | <b>JBS</b>                          | <b>560</b>     |
|                                  | <b>JBS</b>                          | <b>2,400</b>   |
|                                  | <b>JBS</b>                          | <b>260</b>     |



|                           |                          |                  |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|                           | JBS                      | 5,002            |
|                           | Fleming Medical          | 10,000           |
|                           | Creative Activity        | 25,000           |
|                           | Consolidated             | 25,000           |
|                           | JBS                      | 2,400            |
|                           | JBS                      | 2,400            |
|                           | JBS                      | 120              |
|                           | JBS                      | 480              |
|                           | JBS                      | 2,500            |
|                           | Purepharm                | 49,941           |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 100,000          |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 17,000           |
|                           | JBS                      | 3,000            |
|                           | HSE                      | 283,000          |
|                           | JBS                      | 10,000           |
|                           | JBS                      | 60               |
|                           | JBS                      | 500              |
|                           | Portwest                 | 336              |
|                           | Portwest                 | 10,000           |
|                           | JBS                      | 5,002            |
|                           | Portwest                 | 2,000            |
| <b>TOTAL MASKS</b>        |                          | <b>1,195,673</b> |
| <b>TYPE IIR FACEMASKS</b> | <b>E FOX ENGINEERING</b> | <b>4,500</b>     |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 100,000          |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 5,000            |
|                           | Healthcare Essentials    | 110,000          |
|                           | Healthcare Essentials    | 1,000,000        |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 1,200,000        |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 29,950           |
|                           | Poplar Linens            | 1,200,000        |
|                           | Healthcare Essentials    | 1,000,000        |
|                           | The Printed Image (TPI)  | 3,000,000        |
|                           | HSE (ALPHAR)             | 300,000          |
|                           | PRBCG Ltd                | 1,000,000        |
| <b>TOTAL MASKS</b>        |                          | <b>8,949,450</b> |
| <b>WHITE SUITS</b>        | MA Healy & Sons Ltd      | 400              |
|                           | MA Healy & Sons Ltd      | 400              |
|                           | MA Healy & Sons Ltd      | 200              |
|                           | MA Healy & Sons Ltd      | 150              |
|                           | MA Healy & Sons Ltd      | 250              |
|                           | Anderco                  | 3,000            |
|                           | Anderco                  | 7,000            |
|                           | Portwest                 | 10               |
|                           | Portwest                 | 14               |
|                           | Anderco                  | 5,000            |
|                           | Anderco                  | 5,000            |
|                           | SCENE SAFE               | 250              |
|                           | SCENE SAFE               | 215              |
|                           | SCENE SAFE               | 300              |
|                           | JW BALFOUR LTD           | 10,000           |
|                           | Elite Safety Tech        | 300              |
|                           | Elite Safety Tech        | 40               |
|                           | Elite Safety Tech        | 95               |
|                           | Elite Safety Tech        | 110              |
|                           | Elite Safety Tech        | 100              |
|                           | MED Sugical              | 16,000           |
|                           | MCQUILLANS               | 304              |
|                           | Bunzl                    | 4,600            |
|                           | HSE                      | 375              |

|                          |                           |               |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
|                          | JBS                       | 105           |
|                          | Bunzl                     | 3000          |
|                          | JBS                       | 800           |
|                          | JBS                       | 2223          |
|                          | JBS                       | 1093          |
|                          | JBS                       | 40            |
|                          |                           |               |
|                          |                           |               |
| <b>TOTAL SUITS</b>       |                           | <b>61,374</b> |
|                          |                           |               |
| <b>SHOE COVERS</b>       | JBS                       | 1800          |
|                          | CREATIVE ACTIVITY         | 10,000        |
|                          | JBS                       | 5000          |
|                          | JBS                       | 6000          |
|                          | JBS                       | 2598          |
|                          | JBS                       | 15,200        |
| <b>TOTAL SHOE COVERS</b> |                           | <b>40,598</b> |
|                          |                           |               |
| <b>GLOVES</b>            | Portwest                  | 60,000        |
|                          | Bunzl                     | 17,000        |
|                          | Bunzl                     | 20,000        |
|                          | Bunzl                     | 90,000        |
|                          | Bunzl                     | 8,000         |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 275,000       |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 15,000        |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 15,000        |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 10,000        |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 10,000        |
|                          | MA Healy & Sons Ltd       | 4,000         |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 18,000        |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 700           |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 2,000         |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 5,000         |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 100,000       |
|                          | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 230,000       |
|                          | Portwest                  | 1,300         |
|                          | Portwest                  | 25,000        |
|                          | JBS                       | 450,000       |
|                          | JBS                       | 80,000        |
|                          | JBS                       | 20,000        |
|                          | JBS                       | 450,000       |
|                          | E Fox Engineers Ltd       | 41,400        |
|                          | E Fox Engineers Ltd       | 48,000        |
|                          | E Fox Engineers Ltd       | 48,800        |
|                          | FANNIN Healthcare Ltd     | 250,000       |
|                          | Creative Activity         | 777,400       |
|                          | Creative Activity         | 80,000        |
|                          | Creative Activity         | 300,000       |
|                          | Creative Activity         | 180,000       |
|                          | Creative Activity         | 230,000       |
|                          | Safety Tec                | 10,000        |
|                          | MED Surgical              | 17,000        |
|                          | SPARKS LAB                | 35,000        |
|                          | SPARKS LAB                | 13,000        |
|                          | E-FOX                     | 75,000        |
|                          | MCQUILLANS                | 41,000        |
|                          | LENNOX LABS               | 22,200        |
|                          | JBS                       | 557,000       |
|                          | BUNZL                     | 300,000       |
|                          | BUNZL                     | 400,000       |



|                           |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                           | BUNZL                     | 350,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 100,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 500,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 500,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 500,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 500,000           |
|                           | CADMAR TECH               | 348,000           |
|                           | Bunzl                     | 100,000           |
|                           | LENNOX LABS               | 120,000           |
|                           | MCQUILLANS                | 400,000           |
|                           | SPARKS LAB                | 25,200            |
|                           | Pat Coakley Medical       | 24,000            |
|                           | Flemming Medical          | 22,000            |
|                           | Flemming Medical          | 25,000            |
|                           | HSE                       | -1,000,000        |
|                           | HSE                       | 2,000,000         |
|                           | Pat Coakley Medical       | 12,000            |
|                           | JBS                       | 1,000,000         |
|                           | Portfolio Group           | 10,000,000        |
|                           | HSE                       | 30,000            |
|                           | JBS                       | 630,000           |
|                           | JBS                       | 630,000           |
| JBS                       | 320,400                   |                   |
| The Printed image         | 4,000,000                 |                   |
|                           | 500,000                   |                   |
|                           | 1,500,000                 |                   |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>TOTAL GLOVES</b>       |                           | <b>28,468,400</b> |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>DISPOSABLE GOWNS</b>   | JW BALFOUR LTD            | 10,000            |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>TOTAL GOWNS</b>        |                           | <b>10,000</b>     |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>DISPOSABLE APRONS</b>  | JBS                       |                   |
|                           | CREATIVE ACTIVITY         | 10,000            |
| <b>TOTAL APRONS</b>       |                           |                   |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>LASER THERMOMETERS</b> | Carl Stuart Ltd           | 100               |
|                           | Elite Safety              | 200               |
|                           | MED SURGICAL              | 100               |
|                           | Elite Safety              | 100               |
|                           |                           |                   |
|                           |                           |                   |
|                           |                           |                   |
|                           |                           |                   |
| <b>GOGGLES</b>            | Everyday Welding Supplies | 7480              |
|                           | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 2,000             |
|                           | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 700               |
|                           | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 77                |
|                           | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 200               |
|                           |                           |                   |
|                           | Everyday Welding Supplies | 250               |
|                           | Portwest                  | 9                 |
|                           | SCENE SAFE                | 2,000             |
|                           | Creative Activity         | 1,417             |
|                           | Creative Activity         | 13,361            |
|                           | Elite Safety              | 10,000            |
|                           | EVERYDAY WELDING          | 5000              |



|                            |                           |                  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
|                            | EVERYDAY WELDING          | 5000             |
|                            | Everyday Welding Supplies | 3950             |
|                            | Bunzl                     | 200              |
|                            | Bunzl                     | 50               |
|                            | Bunzl                     | 55               |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>TOTAL GOGGLES</b>       |                           | <b>51749</b>     |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>SAFETY GLASSES</b>      |                           |                  |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>VISORS/FACE SHIELDS</b> | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 100              |
|                            | E Fox Engineers Ltd       | 100              |
|                            | SAFETY TECH               | 17,000           |
|                            | MCQUILLANS                | 20               |
|                            | CALT DYNAMICS             | 100              |
|                            | PORTFOLIO GROUP           | 30000            |
|                            | CREATIVE ACTIVITY         | 15000            |
|                            | JBS                       | 2000             |
|                            | JBS                       | 2000             |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>TOTAL FACE SHIELDS</b>  |                           | <b>66,320</b>    |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>SPIT MASK</b>           | HEALTH CARE ESSENTIALS    | 200              |
|                            |                           |                  |
|                            | GARMENTEC (KIT SUPPLIES)  | 1,000            |
|                            | JBS                       | 10,000           |
| <b>Total</b>               |                           | <b>11,200</b>    |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>WIPES - ALCO FREE</b>   | JBS                       | 2,000            |
|                            | JJ McQuillan Son & Co Ltd | 48               |
|                            | FANNIN Helathcare Ltd     | 100              |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 259,200          |
|                            | JBS                       | 13,600           |
|                            | MCQUILLANS                | 960              |
|                            | JBS                       | 1,219,200        |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 960,000          |
|                            | JBS                       | 500              |
|                            | JBS                       | 2,000            |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>TOTAL WIPES</b>         |                           | <b>6,297,608</b> |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>5L PUMPS</b>            |                           | <b>400</b>       |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>FUNNELS</b>             | JBS                       | 140              |
|                            |                           |                  |
| <b>25L PUMPS</b>           |                           |                  |
|                            |                           |                  |
|                            | WATERTECH                 | 140              |
|                            | WATERTECH                 | 33               |
|                            |                           |                  |

|                                   |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>BLUE TOWEL DISPENSERS</b>      | <b>MUSGRAVES</b>            | <b>100</b>            |
| <b>TOTAL DISPENSERS</b>           |                             |                       |
| <b>Empty Bottles</b>              |                             |                       |
| <b>500cc bottles and pump</b>     | <b>EPACKAGING</b>           | <b>1944</b>           |
| <b>50ML BOTTLE &amp; LID</b>      | <b>EPACKAGING</b>           | <b>14,400</b>         |
| <b>100ML BOTTLE &amp; LID</b>     | <b>EPACKAGING</b>           | <b>10,000</b>         |
| <b>150ML BOTTLE &amp; LID</b>     | <b>EPACKAGING</b>           | <b>3,468</b>          |
| <b>500ML BOTTLE &amp; LID</b>     | <b>EPACKAGING</b>           | <b>8,944</b>          |
|                                   | <b>RAEPAC UK</b>            | <b>8,911</b>          |
|                                   | <b>WATERTECH</b>            | <b>300</b>            |
| <b>5l bottle</b>                  | <b>THE PACKAGING CENTRE</b> | <b>5,016</b>          |
|                                   | <b>THE PACKAGING CENTRE</b> | <b>19,000</b>         |
| <b>TOTAL BOTTLES</b>              |                             | <b>71,983</b>         |
| <b>POP UP KITCHEN ACCESSORIES</b> |                             |                       |
|                                   | <b>CHARLIE SHIELS</b>       | <b>20</b>             |
|                                   | <b>CHARLIE SHIELS</b>       | <b>20</b>             |
|                                   | <b>CHARLIE SHIELS</b>       | <b>50</b>             |
|                                   | <b>Office Depot</b>         | <b>461</b>            |
|                                   | <b>Ballygowan</b>           | <b>76</b>             |
| <b>TOTAL MISC</b>                 |                             |                       |
| <b>Testing Centres</b>            | <b>ACTAVO</b>               |                       |
|                                   | <b>Clonmel Cabins</b>       |                       |
| <b>TOTAL Test Centres</b>         |                             |                       |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE TO DATE</b>  |                             | <b>€12,947,669.15</b> |