

# An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise  
An Garda Síochána  
Teach áth Luimnigh  
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail  
Baile Sheáin  
An Uaimh  
Contae na Mí  
C15 DR90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Bí linn/Join us  



Freedom of Information Office  
An Garda Síochána  
Athlumney House  
IDA Business Park  
Johnstown  
Navan  
Co Meath  
C15 DR90

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-000029-2015 Request Part Grant

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014, and to your submission to this body, dated and received on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.

Part 1 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.

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by An Garda Síochána:

*"What is the total cost to equip a member of An Garda Síochána with all the items they require to do their job.*

*The information should include the following items and all other items:*

*Uniform (All elements)*

*Handcuffs*

*Body Armour*

*Baton*

*Pepper Spray or Other Variant*

*Belt*

*Tazzer*

*Personal Fire Arm (Detective)*

*Radio*

*Are gardai required to share any equipment? If so what equipment?*

*Are gardai required to pay for any elements of equipment they require? If so which?*

*Please break costings down per item, garda grade or unit/specialist unit, i.e., ERU, detective, etc and sex. “*

I, \_\_\_\_\_ wish to inform you that your request has been **part granted**.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. An explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is part granted, and
2. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these parts in turn.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access**

The total cost to equip a member of An Garda Síochána with all of the items they require to do their job is **€2,136.87 including VAT**. A breakdown of the equipment required is published on the Garda website at [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie) : About Us → Organisation → Uniform.

In relation to the second and third element of your request respectively, members of An Garda Síochána are not required to pay for any elements of equipment or to share same. There is no difference in the cost to equip a member of An Garda Síochána on the basis of the sex or the rank of the member.

On foot of the exemption provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I am unable to provide you with the fourth element of your request. To provide a break-down of costings, by item, would create commercial advantage, on grounds of commercial sensitivity, as a tender for the provision of uniform will be commenced by the Office of Government Procurement in 2016 hence this information is exempt under Section 36(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

#### ***“Commercially sensitive information***

**36. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if the record concerned contains—**

- (a) trade secrets of a person other than the requester concerned,*
- (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, or*
- (c) information whose disclosure could prejudice the conduct or outcome of contractual or other negotiations of the person to whom the information relates.”*

However, if you require total costings of equipment per a specific Garda Unit(s), please submit a Freedom of Information request detailing the specific information you require.



## **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-000029-2015**.

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:** IE86BOFI90001710026896  
**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](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,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

**11<sup>th</sup> November 2015**