

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



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

Bí linn/Join us  

Riomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000063-2015 Request Refusal

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and your submission to An Garda Síochána dated 16th October 2015 and received on 19th October 2015.

Part 1 of 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.

Your request is shown below:

‘The number of Garda caps that have been lost/stolen since January 1, 2010 and the cost of replacing those caps.’

I, _____ wish to inform you that your request is refused.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions

The information sought does not exist in the format you have requested. I am aware that a member of staff from this office informed you that the records concerned do not exist and as a result I must,

refuse your request. This decision is made under section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act.

“Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15. (1) *A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where—*

(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,”

However, following the discussion with a member of my staff it was agreed that I would provide the number and cost of caps issued to Garda members inclusive of Garda Recruits and Reserve members for each of the years since 2010. These figures are provided on Table 1 below.

Table 1

Year	Total Number of Caps	Total Cost
2015	1,384	€28,939.50
2014	1,568	€32,786.50
2013	742	€15,515.30
2012	520	€10,873.20
2011	701	€14,658.00
2010	566	€11,835.10

The figures provided on Table 1 above refer to all caps provided to members of An Garda Síochána during the periods identified. Each member receives more than one cap and may have a number of caps provided within any given period due to a variety of reasons. As the uniform cap is part of the operational uniform it is subject to wear and tear. The increase in the number of hats issued in years 2014 and 2015 can be attributed to the resumption of recruitment for the Garda Organisation.

2. Rights 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-00063-2015**.

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.

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.

19th November 2015