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

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Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000018-2015

Request Refusal

Dear

I,

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and your submission to this body dated 14/10/2015 and received on 14/10/2015.

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:

"Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I wish to request records of all correspondence between the Garda Commissioner, to include but not limited to letter and e-mails (including any attachments), and the Minister of Justice in relation to human resources, finance and procurement from October 14, 2014 to date".

wish to inform you that your request has been refused.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

I am aware that you had a conversation with a member of my staff regarding this request and an agreement was reached that non-routine correspondence would be excluded from the searches conducted for this request.

Correspondence between the Garda Commissioner and the Minister for Justice and Equality was queried from October 2014 to October 2015. The search was conducted across all electronic correspondence recorded in the Commissioner's Office correspondence register. From conversation held with the staff of the Commissioner's office I am satisfied that all correspondence is held electronically. The following key words were used to search the system: Finance, HR, Human Resources, Finance or Procurement. Any records identified, using the key word search, were further searched for references to the term "Minister". No records were identified.

As no records were located you may wish to reconsider your search criterion and provide a more specific search relevant to the information you seek. My office can assist you as necessary.

In accordance with the requirements of section 15(1) (a), I am satisfied that all reasonable steps have been taken to identify and locate the records requested in relation to your request. As the records concerned could not be located I must therefore refuse your request on this basis.

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-000018-2015.

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: BOFIIE2D

Your must ensure that your FOI reference number is included in the payment details.

You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 20 working days from the date of this notification. A working day excludes the weekend and public holidays. 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.

9th November 2015