

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 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  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000445-2019 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 15th November, 2019 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 FOI Act, can I please ask how many Freedom of Information requests made to An Garda Síochána were made since the FOI Act was extended to include the Force in October, 2014?

In your reply, can you state how many FOI requests were granted, partially granted and refused, and include a breakdown of who made the requests, ie. journalists, members of the public, former staff members, etc?

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 28th November 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

An Garda Síochána became subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 in October 2015. 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.

I wish to advise that I am refusing the records for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017 in accordance with Section 15(1)(d) which states:

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 -
(d) the information is already in the public domain.*

The information sought by you is contained in the annual reports published on the AGS website and may be accessed by following the attached link:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/Information-Centre/Annual-Reports/>

In relation to the years 2018 and 2019 please see table below which provides the details of the records as requested in your Freedom of Information request.

	2018	2019 (October)
Grant	58	46
Part-Grant	108	79
Refused	281	271
Transferred	0	0
Withdrawn	46	18
Withdrawn/Handled Outside FOI	0	0
Live	13 (Carried over to 2019)	11 (Live as at 30.10.2019)
Total Number of Requests	497	414
Type of Requester		
Journalists	188	180
Others	309	234

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-000445-2019**.

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 (FOI-000445-2019) 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**
MARIA BRODIGAN
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

28th **NOVEMBER, 2019.**