

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-000110-2018 Request Part Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 14th March, 2018 and clarified on 20th March, 2018 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 original request sought:

Costings associated to garda overtime payments in the Longford and Granard Garda Divisions between January 2016 and January 2018.

Details of Go Safe contracts in Longford and Granard Garda Divisions, concerning costings, hours provided, flat rate fees and hourly rates over the past five years in both divisions.

Details of the top ten roads in both aforementioned districts where motorists incurred speeding fines including the numbers and details of the monetary penalties handed out on each road during the same period.

Your amended request:

1. *Costings associated to garda overtime payments in the Longford and Granard Garda Divisions between January 2016 and January 2018.*

2. *Details of Go Safe contracts in Longford and Granard Garda Divisions, concerning costings, hours provided, flat rate fees and hourly rates over the past five years in both divisions.*
3. *The amount of money received on foot of payments of fines for the Longford Division*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 8th May 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Directorate of An Garda Síochána to identify records containing the information you requested.

The Garda Divisions do not necessarily align with County borders. For example, within County Cork, there are 3 Garda Divisions (Cork North, Cork City and Cork West). While conversely other Garda Divisions may comprise of more than one county such as Longford / Roscommon or Sligo / Leitrim. In accordance with this geographical layout, the overtime payments sought by you are a breakdown of overtime paid to Garda members on a Garda Divisional basis within the Longford / Roscommon Division.

You have also sought the overtime expenditure for January 2018. The policy of An Garda Síochána is to publish overtime expenditure by Division on a quarterly basis. It should be noted overtime is only payable to members of Garda, Sergeant and Inspector rank.

In this regard, I am refusing part 1 of your request in accordance with section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act as the information is already in the public domain.

Section 15(1)(d) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 states:

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 overtime spends for An Garda Síochána is provided by the Finance Directorate and is published on an annual basis, broken down by Quarter and Division and is available at the attached link below:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/Information-Centre/Freedom-of-Information/Publication-Scheme/Budgets-and-spending/Overtime-Reports.html>

The nature of Garda work and the requirement that the Garda authorities respond, in some cases at short notice, to immediate policing demands means that there is a necessity to incur overtime expenses to ensure effective policing. Accordingly, there will always be a need for a certain level of overtime to allow An Garda Síochána flexibility when responding to circumstances that require additional resources for specific operations. These additional resources will have to be over and above those available from Gardaí on rostered duty thus ensuring the continuation of normal policing unabated.

In addition, a number of police led operations, in various years, required the deployment of extra resources on overtime. This included the implementation of anti-crime and anti-burglary initiatives. Similarly, non-crime related events and events organised by interest groups within the general public can require overtime to police effectively as additional Gardaí may be to be deployed to ensure public safety.

Part 2 of your request sought “*Details of Go Safe contracts in Longford and Granard Garda Divisions, concerning costings, hours provided, flat rate fees and hourly rates over the past five years in both divisions.*”

The service agreement for the provision and operation of safety cameras is a nationwide agreement which was signed on 11th August 2016. This has been subject to previous FOI requests and I am therefore refusing the release of his information under section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act as this report has been the subject of a previous request. You may view this decision by following the attached link:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/Information-Centre/Freedom-of-Information/Decision-Log/Finance-%E2%80%93-Procurement/FOI-000450-2016-Decision.pdf>

In relation to Part 3 of your request I am providing the following information. Your request specified the Longford Division, however, Longford is classed as a Garda District. The total amount of money received on foot of payments of fines in the Longford Garda District and Granard Garda District is therefore provided for the years 2016 and 2017.

| 2017 | 2016 |
|----------|----------|
| €144,370 | €151,460 |

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-000110-2018**.

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-000110-2018) is included in the payment details.

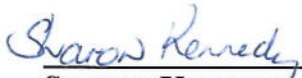
You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal 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,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
SHARON KENNEDY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

09 MAY 2017