

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000350-2018 Request Part Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 16th August, 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 request sought:

The amount allocated to the payment of witnesses' expenses for each policing district in Ireland, each year from 2012 to date; and the amount spent each year covering witnesses' expenses, each year from 2012 to date

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 28th August, 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 within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records relating to your request.

In relation to Part one of your request that seeks "*The amount allocated to the payment of witnesses' expenses for each policing district in Ireland, each year from 2012 to date.*" We

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have been advised by the Finance Directorate that there is no allocation of monies for witness expenses. In this regard, I am refusing part one of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken

Part two of your request seeks “*the amount spent each year covering witnesses’ expenses, each year from 2012 to date.*” The table below gives the cost of the witness expenses for the dates requested.

Expenditure on Witness Expenses	
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2012	€ 1,471,969.42
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2013	€ 1,757,685.95
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2014	€ 1,562,248.44
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2015	€ 1,651,700.64
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2016	€ 1,675,353.74
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2017	€ 1,962,745.66
1 Jan – 23 Aug 2018	€ 1,742,073.66
Total	€ 11,823,777.51

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-000350-2018**.

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: BOFIIIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000350-2018) is included in the payment details.

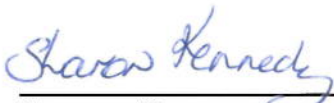
You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal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

28 **AUGUST, 2018**