

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-000240-2019 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 14th June, 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:

- *The total amount paid to members of An Garda Síochána in overtime last year, broken down between ranks, and county.*
- *The 20 highest amounts paid in overtime last year, and the rankings of these members*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 4th July, 2019.

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 have briefed this Office in respect of same.

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 duties unabated.

In addition, police led operations can require the deployment of extra resources on overtime. This includes 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 need to be deployed to ensure public safety.

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

Part 1 of your request is seeking *'The total amount paid to members of An Garda Síochána in overtime last year, broken down between ranks, and county'*.

The Garda Divisions do not necessarily align the county borders and some Divisions comprise of more than one county. In accordance with this geographical layout, the information in the format sought by you is not available. Additionally, I am to advise you that the overtime expenditure for An Garda Síochána is provided by the Finance Directorate and is published on an annual basis, broken down per Quarter and Garda Division. However, the information is not available broken down by rank. The publication of overtime broken down by Division is available by following the link below to the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme on the Garda website:

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

In this regard, I am to advise you that I am applying Section 15(1)(a) and (d) to your request which state:

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

Part 2 of your request is seeking *'The 20 highest amounts paid in overtime last year, and the rankings of these members'*.

Please find below the 20 highest amounts paid in overtime for 2018 broken down by rank. It should be further noted that overtime is only payable to members at Garda, Sergeant and Inspector rank.

20 highest amounts paid in overtime - 2018		
	Amount	Rank
1	64,017	Inspector
2	63,075	Sergeant
3	61,803	Inspector
4	61,206	Garda
5	60,477	Garda
6	58,074	Sergeant
7	57,791	Sergeant
8	57,540	Garda
9	57,033	Sergeant
10	56,829	Garda
11	56,804	Sergeant
12	56,077	Sergeant
13	55,663	Garda
14	55,571	Garda
15	54,945	Sergeant
16	54,608	Inspector
17	54,028	Sergeant
18	53,716	Garda
19	53,712	Sergeant
20	53,432	Sergeant

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-000240-2019**.

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-000240-2019) 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 me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

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

4th JULY, 2019.