

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-000378-2019 Request Refused

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 25th September 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 of Gardai to receive overtime payments in connection with the Presidential visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence.

The total amount paid out in overtime to Gardai in connection with the visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence visit.

The individual overtime totals received by the top 10 earning Garda in connection with the Pence visit.

The total amount paid by the Gardai to hotels to provide accommodation for Gardai for the Pence visit.

The individual amounts paid to named hotels to accommodate Gardai and the number of Gardai accommodated in each hotel.

The food and beverage bill to the Gardai from each named hotel.

The amount paid out by Gardai to other named third parties in connection with services provided for the visit of Vice President Pence

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on 1st October, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

The Sections of the FOI Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as exemption provisions.

On receipt of your request, this office contacted the Finance Directorate of An Garda Síochána in respect of your request. The Finance Directorate have informed this office that all payments in respect of the presidential visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence have not yet been processed. It will be late October or early November before a full analysis will be available.

As the records you request are not available at the moment, I am therefore refusing your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 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—

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

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-000378-2019**.

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-000378-2019) 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

1st **OCTOBER, 2019.**