

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

Teilifón/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-000380-2019 Request Part Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 1st October, 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 number*** of members of An Garda Síochána assaulted in the course of their duty in the period **September 1 2018 to September 30 2018.***

(I note from previous FOI requests for this data from other parties that the figure supplied are in respect of members of An Garda Síochána who suffered "Occupational Injuries" as a result of being assaulted e.g. FOI 000060-2019, FOI 000111-2018 and 000004-2019 though the requesters sought "all data relating to assaults", "How many Gardai were assaulted while on duty" and "all data relating to assaults on Gardai ..." respectively)*

Please note that I am seeking data in respect of all assaults (which includes those who were spat at or on) on members of An Garda Síochána -not just those which resulted in a reported "Occupational Injury".

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 13th October, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were provided to the Health and Safety Section of An Garda Síochána to identify records containing the information you have requested. The Health and Safety Section have advised this office that for the period 1st September to 30th September, 2018 there were 13 Members of An Garda Síochána injured as a result of an assault in the course of their duty. Out of the 13 Members recorded none reported being spat on or at, but 4 out of the 13 indicated they had been bitten. The Health and Safety Section go on to state that the figure supplied is only for those which resulted in a reported "Occupational Injury".

As regards the last part of your request were you request "*data in respect of all assaults (which includes those who were spat at or on) on members of An Garda Síochána -not just those which resulted in a reported "Occupational Injury"*". The Health and Safety Section have advised us that the position is unchanged from your request FOI-000306-2019 and they cannot provide the records in the format sought in your FOI request. The figures they supply relate to the number of occupational injuries that have been reported to An Garda Síochána. In the event that the assault is not recorded on GEMS (Garda Employee Management System), it is then considered to have not been reported. This information is therefore not available. In this regard, I am refusing this part of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI 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 0*
(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-000380-2019**.

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-000380-2019 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

14th OCTOBER, 2019.