

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000388-2018 Request Granted

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 and received on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2018 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána.

I am aware that two members of staff of this Office were in contact with you via email and your request was clarified on both the 21<sup>st</sup> September and the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018.

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 initial request sought:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I would like to request the release of information regarding the Garda Press Office, specifically:*

- 1. The amount of staff hired by the press office since 2014, with an annual breakdown*
- 2. The amount paid to staff in the press office since 2014, with a breakdown of salaries and overtime if possible*

Your request was clarified on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018:

*My request refers too all staff in the press office, including members of the force and civilian staff.*

Your request was again clarified on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018:

*A record of the number of Garda staff and Garda members assigned to/working in the Press Office each year from January 2014 to September 2018 broken down by rank/grade.*

*I can confirm that this is some of the information I am seeking as part of my request. However, I am also seeking information regarding civilian members of staff in the office.*

Please note that I have numbered your request for ease of reference throughout my decision letter.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision**

Upon receipt, details of your request was provided to both the Finance and Human Resource Directorates within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records relating to same. This Office has been briefed and records have been provided for my consideration.

Upon review of these records I have decided to grant Part 1 of your request which was clarified on the 21<sup>st</sup> September and 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 wherein you seek:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I would like to request the release of information regarding the Garda Press Office, specifically:*

1. *The amount of staff hired by the press office since 2014, with an annual breakdown*

Please see attached at Appendix A a record which outlines the number of Garda staff and Garda members assigned to the Press Office as of 31/01/2014, 31/01/2015, 31/01/2016, 31/01/2017, 31/01/2016 and 20/09/2018 broken down by rank/grade. Please note that these figures may vary throughout the aforementioned periods as vacancies can arise due to retirements, secondments, re-assignments and promotions.

I have also decided to grant Part 2 of your request wherein you seek:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I would like to request the release of information regarding the Garda Press Office, specifically:*

2. *The amount paid to staff in the press office since 2014, with a breakdown of salaries and overtime if possible*

Please see attached at Appendix B a record which outlines the salaries, allowances and overtime costs associated with the Press Office broken down annually from the 01/01/2014 to 27/09/2018.

## 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-000388-2018**.

**Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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-000388-2018 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](http://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**

17 **OCTOBER, 2018**

Response – Freedom of Information Request FOI 000-388-18

The tables below show the number of Garda Staff and Garda members assigned to the Press Office as of 31/01/2014, 31/01/2015, 31/01/2016, 31/01/2017, 31/01/2018 and 20/09/2018 broken down by grade/rank.

Garda Staff	Principal Officer	Higher Executive Officer	Executive Officer	Clerical Officer
31/01/2014	1	1		5
31/01/2015	1	1		5
31/01/2016	1	1		4
31/01/2017	1	1		5
31/01/2018	1	0	1	5
20/09/2018	1	1	0	5

Garda Members	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant
31/01/2014	1	1	7
31/01/2015	1	1	7
31/01/2016	2	0	7
31/01/2017	2	1	8
31/01/2018	1	1	7
20/09/2018	1	1	7

G9020 Garda Press Office

Subhead A1(i) Salaries, Wages &amp; Allowances

01.01.2014 - 27.09.2018

Parent Subhead	01 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014	01 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015	01 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016	01 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017	01 Jan 2018 - 27 Sept 2018	Grand Total
Salaries & Allowances	€ 894,239.92	€ 876,179.30	€ 920,161.62	€ 1,100,368.77	€ 765,451.16	€ 4,556,400.77
Overtime	€ 2,603.73	€ 10,530.83	€ 15,343.31	€ 115,683.90	€ 80,086.00	€ 224,247.77
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>€ 896,843.65</b>	<b>€ 886,710.13</b>	<b>€ 935,504.93</b>	<b>€ 1,216,052.67</b>	<b>€ 845,537.16</b>	<b>€ 4,780,648.54</b>