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 ND62



Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co Meath. C15 ND62

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-000390-2020 Request Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 1st November, 2020 and received on 2nd November, 2020 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:

I wish to request access to the following records under the Freedom of Information Act:

- records containing details of all expenses, allowances and other costs paid in respect of the Garda band during 2019 and 2020 to date; to include the purpose of the payments and the number of recipients

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 19th November 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt your request was forwarded to the Finance Directorate within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search of their records. As per your previous requests in relation to the Garda Band (FOI-000484-2018 and FOI-000333-2019) I am providing the number of staff attached to the Garda Band rather the number of recipients of payments as sought in your request.

Please see table A below which outlines the expenditure from the Garda Band Cost Centre for 2019 and 2020 (January to October).

Table A: - Garda Band Expenses:

Garda Band	2019	2020 (Jan-Oct)
Salaries, Wages & Allowances	1,742,265	1,595,634
Transport	7,080	308
Travel & Subsistence	27,755	7,625
Incidental Expenses	3,428	52
Communications & Other Equipment	15,265	2,100
Station Services	125	0
Total	€1,795,917	€1,605,718

Table B below outlines the number of staff attached to the Garda band for 2019 and 2020.

Table B:- Staffing Levels in Garda Band

	2019	2020 (Jan-Oct)
Garda Band	29	29

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-000390-2020.

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: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

Account Number: 30000302

Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302

BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000390-2020) 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,

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

18 NOVEMBER, 2020.