

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

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

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000413-2019 Request Part-Grant

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 24<sup>th</sup> 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:

- 1. The total amount of Gardai to receive overtime payments in connection with the Presidential visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence.*
- 2. The total amount paid out in overtime to Gardai in connection with the visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence visit.*
- 3. The individual overtime totals received by the top 10 earning Garda in connection with the Pence visit.*
- 4. The total amount paid by the Gardai to hotels to provide accommodation for Gardai for the Pence visit.*
- 5. The individual amounts paid to named hotels to accommodate Gardai and the number of Gardai accommodated in each hotel.*
- 6. The food and beverage bill to the Gardai from each named hotel.*

7. *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 part-grant your request on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

Upon receipt your request was forwarded the Finance section of An Garda Síochána. Your request has been numbered for ease of reference

In relation to Part 1 of your request, I can now advise you that 2,563 Garda members received overtime payments in connection with the visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence

Part 2 of your request sought *“The total amount paid out in overtime to Gardai in connection with the visit of US Vice President, Mike Pence visit”*. I can now advise you that the total spend on overtime for Vice President Pence’s visit was €1,863,355.

In regard to Part 4 of your request where you are seeking *“The total amount paid by the Gardai to hotels to provide accommodation for Gardai for the Pence visit”*. I wish to advise that the total spend on hotels for the provision of accommodation for Gardai for Vice President Pence’s visit was €101,398.

Pleased find attached appendices which supply the details requested in Parts 3,5,6 and 7 of your request.

The sections of the Act, which may deny access to information, are known as its exemptions. I wish to advise you that I am refusing the section of part 5 of your request that seeks “the number of Gardai accommodated in each hotel” in accordance with Section 15 (1) (a) the Freedom of Information 2014 which states:

- 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,*

This office has been advised by the Finance Directorate that records are not available of the number of Garda accommodated in each hotel and I am therefore not in a position to provide this information.

## **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-000413-2019**.

***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-000413-2019) 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](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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

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

 **NOVEMBER, 2019.**

Top 10 Overtime Payments - VP Pence Visit

Garda Member	Total
1	€6,821
2	€5,944
3	€5,676
4	€5,652
5	€5,392
6	€5,144
7	€5,030
8	€4,945
9	€4,926
10	€4,823

Vice President Pence Visit - Accommodation Costs

Vendor Name	Type	Payment
ARMADA HOTEL	Accommodation	€6,417.00
AUBURN LODGE HOTEL	Accommodation	€885.00
BELLBRIDGE HOUSE HOTEL	Accommodation	€10,080.00
BUNRATTY MANOR	Accommodation	€2,280.00
CLARE COAST HOTELS	Accommodation	€6,300.00
DROMOLAND CASTLE	Accommodation	€6,650.00
FALLS HOTEL LTD	Accommodation	€7,020.00
KILKEE BAY HOTEL	Accommodation	€8,700.00
LAHINCH COAST HOTEL	Accommodation	€36,000.00
OLD GROUND HOTEL	Accommodation	€300.00
QUEENS HOTEL	Accommodation	€1,680.00
TREACYS OAKWOOD HOTEL	Accommodation	€5,600.00
TREACYS WEST COUNTY HOTEL	Accommodation	€6,000.00
TRUMP INTERNATIONAL HOTEL & GOLF LINKS	Accommodation	€3,486.00
		<u>€101,398.00</u>

Vice President Pence Visit - Catering Costs

Vendor Name	Type	Payment
BELLBRIDGE HOUSE HOTEL	Catering	€30,018.00
BWG FOODS LIMITED	Catering	€717.85
BWG FOODS LIMITED	Catering	€515.07
FITZPATRICKS COSTCUTTER	Catering	€190.00
FITZPATRICKS COSTCUTTER	Catering	€33.69
RYANS BUTCHERS	Catering	€305.00
SHANNON SPRINGS HOTEL	Catering	€4,490.50
THE CLUBHOUSE RESTAURANT	Catering	€2,695.63
THE HALFWAY HOUSE	Catering	€6,875.00
TREACYS OAKWOOD HOTEL	Catering	€19,057.50
WESTMANSTOWN SPORTS	Catering	€17,326.65
ZEST AT LTD	Catering	€3,300.00
		<u>€85,524.89</u>

Vice President Pence Visit - Other Services

Vendor Name	Type	Payment
ACTAVO EVENTS IRELAND LTD	Equipment Hire	€53,651.37
ANDREW HOURIGAN LTD	Equipment Hire	€3,318.51
ATLANTIC CABINS & CONTAINERS LTD	Equipment Hire	€4,225.05
BARRY SMYTHE DIY LTD	Signage	€192.00
BUS EIREANN	Bus Hire	€21,050.00
DOMAC PLANT & TOOL HIRE LTD	Equipment Hire	€984.00
EUROPCAR IRELAND	Car Hire	€7,272.90
HYNNAN TRAVEL LTD	Bus Hire	€9,150.00
KILMIHIL HARDWARE LTD	Supply of Equipment	€22.00
KILTANE SERVICE STATION	Supply of Equipment	€276.76
LAOIS HIRE SERVICES LTD	Equipment Hire	€12,503.54
MONGEY COMMUNICATIONS	Supply of Equipment	€80,872.50
NORSPACE LTD	Equipment Hire	€3,743.90
REALPRINT LTD	Signage	€688.80
SCALES BUS TOURS LTD	Bus Hire	€24,960.00
SCANLON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LTD	Equipment Hire	€1,078.25
TETRA IRELAND COMMUNICATIONS LTD	Supply of Equipment	€100,969.38
TIM THOMPSON ELECTRICAL	Supply of Equipment	€658.00
WELLNESS MINERAL WATER LTD	Supply of Water	€2,561.54
		<u>€328,178.50</u>