

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

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie



Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000358-2023 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 24th October, 2023 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 make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and results preferably delivered via email.

- 1) *Expenditure/Budget for Accounting Year 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 of Garda National Vetting Bureau - Sub Unit Garda Vetting.*
- 2) *Current Breakdown by Rank (Member of An Garda Síochána) / Civil Service Designation (Civilian Staff) who are Mandated Persons per Children First Act 2015.*
- 3) *Current Breakdown by Rank (Member of An Garda Síochána) / Civil Service Designation (Civilian Staff) who are not Mandated Persons per Children First Act 2015.*
- 4) *Expenditure Breakdown for Accounting Year 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (Till Date) for Community Policing for the organizations 1) Vedic Hindu Cultural*

Centre Ireland (VHCCI) 2) Federation of Indian Communities in Ireland (FICI) 3) Indo-Irish Telugu Welfare Association (ITWA). An organization wise breakdown too.

5) *Expenditure Breakdown for Accounting Year 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (Till Date) for Garda National Vetting Bureau for the organizations 1) Vedic Hindu Cultural Centre Ireland (VHCCI) 2) Federation of Indian Communities in Ireland (FICI) 3) Indo-Irish Telugu Welfare Association (ITWA). An organization wise breakdown too.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 17th November, 2023. The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant sections within An Garda Síochána and some records were obtained.

As regards to part 1 of your request the table below details the actual gross expenditure for accounting year 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 of the Garda National Vetting Bureau.

	2020	2021	2022	2023 Jan-Oct
National Vetting Unit	€6,584,513	€6,762,600	€7,083,830	€6.331.353

In relation to parts 2 and 3 of your request, The Children First Act 2015 Schedule 2, Section 2 (13) states that all members of An Garda Síochána are defined as mandated persons for the purpose of the Act.

With regard to parts 4 and 5 of your request, our financial systems do not record the expenditure of the Garda National Vetting Bureau or community policing by organisations. As such the records sought do not exist and I am refusing these parts of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)(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-000358-2023**.

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

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-000358-2023) 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

16 NOVEMBER, 2023