

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-000361-2023 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 25th 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:

Under the freedom of information, I request the following records:

How much money have the Gardai spent on translation services i.e for interviewing suspects/witnesses.

I request all records from January 1, 2019 until July 31, 2023 and for the data to be broken down by language.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 3rd November 2023.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions.

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Section of An Garda Síochána to identify records held in relation to the costs associated with hiring translators. This office has been advised that the total spend for the time period requested is €18,343,967.

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There are records held relating to translation costs and each record held may or may not identify the specific translation type conducted which incurred the cost. Each record held would have to be checked manually to identify the type of service provided and the languages involved. However in some cases the records do not necessarily have this level of detail recorded and so it is not possible to identify the languages involved from the records. As a result the information gathered would be incomplete even if all records were researched individually. Therefore there is no overall single record, which has the information you seek, held within An Garda Síochána Finance Section.

Therefore, a breakdown of the Languages and cost associated with each language translated does not exist. Subsequently, I am refusing this part of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI act which states:

Section 15 – 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

(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-000361-2023**.

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-000361-2023 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

3rd

NOVEMBER, 2023.