

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000335-2023 Request Part Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 3rd 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:

- 1. Is remuneration paid to staff who are suspended, i.e., is there a continuation of full salary or is their salary reduced?*
- 2. If paid full salary, does this include allowances?*
- 3. If reduced, does your Department exclude any/all allowances that are normally paid? If so,*
- 4. What type of allowances do you continue to pay, and which allowances cease?*
- 5. Where staff whose allowances were stopped during suspension, and they subsequently are cleared of all allegations of misconduct are allowances repaid to staff?*

In addition to the above, I would appreciate it if you could let me know the number of people suspended, pending the conclusion of disciplinary processes, by your organisation in each year 2020 to 2023 and details as to whether all such individuals received their normal pay, including allowances, during the period of suspension.

I wish to advise that I have made a decision to part grant your request on the 13th October, 2023.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision I have also numbered the request for ease of reference.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt your request was forwarded to the relevant Sections of An Garda Síochána. In relation to part 1 of your request I can advise that during the suspended member's period of suspension from duty he/she will be paid a suspension allowance in lieu of pay except in the following circumstances;

- a) Where a member is detained in pursuance of a court sentence,
- b) Where a member is placed in custody (in prison or elsewhere) between conviction by a court and sentence,
- c) In any other circumstances where a member is refused bail, or
- d) Where member's whereabouts is unknown to his/her District Officer.

A member who was not in receipt of pay prior to his/her suspension will not be paid suspension allowance. Members who qualify for suspension allowance will be paid an allowance equivalent to 100% of basic pay, including rent allowance.

In respect of parts 2, 3 and 4 of your request the member will not receive payment of any other allowance for the period of suspension.

Part 5 of your request sought records regarding the repayment of allowances following reinstatement of members. In circumstances where a member previously suspended from duty, returns to full duty and is reinstated into his/ her previous position, said member is entitled to reinstatement of allowances applicable to the position, but does not receive any back payment of allowances for his /her period of suspension.

As regards the last paragraph I can advise the following

2020 - 41 members suspended
2021 - 44 members suspended
2022 - 44 members suspended
2023 - 21 members suspended to date

In addition I wish to advise that further information on suspensions and other aspects of An Garda Síochána can be found in the Garda Commissioners monthly reports that be accessed through the Garda website by following the attached link;

<https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/commissioner-s-monthly-reports-to-policing-authority/>

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-000335-2023**.

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-000335-2023 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

13th

OCTOBER, 2023.