

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise
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

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000269-2016 Request Refused

Dear

I refer to your request dated and received on 18th July 2016 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána. I also refer to the discussion you had with a member of my staff regarding this FOI request.

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 is shown below:

- *All records including letters, emails or other correspondence relating to the overtime and extra Gardai deployed for music festivals in 2016.*
- *I would like details into the costs of deploying extra members of Gardai for the Forbidden Fruit, Longitude, Disclosure and Faithless concerts which have taken place already this summer.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 8th August 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

A search of the Financial Management System was requested in order to identify possible records that could be relevant to your FOI request. During that process it was identified that the records for music events are not recorded centrally but rather recorded at Garda District level throughout the 6 Garda Regions. There would be a significant amount of time and effort, using Garda resources, required to collate all the overtime records and cross reference them with the dates of the music festivals to provide the number of hours of overtime incurred and Garda resources employed to police such events.

In addition the fact that a music festival is being held in a specific Garda District does not automatically limit the number of Garda Districts that would have to be researched for the amount of overtime incurred. In many cases the policing of festivals are done by utilising available Garda members from neighbouring Garda Districts and Divisions. Therefore the fact that a festival was held at a single location does not necessarily indicate that the Gardaí required to police the event on overtime were sourced from that single location.

The extraction of the relevant records across the Garda Organisation for overtime incurred and resources employed as a result of policing music festivals in 2016 would incur significant time and costs and by reason of the nature of the records and the detailed examination of such records a substantial and unreasonable disruption to the administrative functions of the Garda Organisation will ensue. Consequently I am refusing your request under the provisions of section 15 (1)(C) of the FOI Act- *Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests*. Section 15 (1)(C) is shown below.

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—

- (c) in the opinion of the head, granting the request would, by reason of the number or nature of the records concerned or the nature of the information concerned, require the retrieval and examination of such number of records or an examination of such kind of the records concerned as to cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with or disruption of work (including disruption of work in a particular functional area) of the FOI body concerned,*

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 **F01-000269-2016**.

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: IE86B0F190001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number 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,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

9TH AUGUST 2016