

# 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

Bi 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-000413-2016 Refused

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016, which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 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:

*"I am requesting the review of the 28 garda victim services offices undertaken in the last number of months and any correspondence or minutes from meetings about the same."*

I have now made a final decision to refuse your request on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

The information you have sought does not come within the scope of the FOI Act insofar as An Garda Síochána is concerned. Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of

Information Act 2014 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 seeking a record that refers to operational matters and crime related support structures.

The 28 Victim Service Offices (VSO) were established to ensure victims of crime were kept informed about the progress of their cases and the supports available to them. The VSO are included as part of the anti-crime strategy of An Garda Síochána. Any review of these services is considered an operational matter and not an administrative function of the purposes of Human Resources, Finance or Procurement.

Further information on the VSO is available on the Garda website at <http://garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=16313>

In addition, the aforementioned review is ongoing and is likely to be completed in the first quarter of 2017. Consideration will be given to publishing the review upon completion if it is deemed appropriate to do so.

I am therefore refusing your request as the information you are seeking it out of the scope of the FOI Act insofar as An Garda Síochána is 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 **FOI-000413-2016**.

Freedom of Information Office,  
An Garda Síochána  
Athlumney House,  
IDA Business Park,  
Navan,  
Co. Meath  
C15 DR90

Please note that a fee applies. This fee has been set at €30 (€10 for a Medical Card51holder). 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, FOI-000424-2016, 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 me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

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

**9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2016**