

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-000007-2021 Request Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 5th January, 2021 and received on 6th January, 2021 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) The amount that An Garda Síochána spent on Interpreter Services in the years of 2019 and 2020 in tabular form*
- 2) The top 8 countries in which Interpreter Services were required in the years of 2019 and 2020 in tabular form*
- 3) If Gardai have full access to interpreter services via Garda issued radio when dealing with members of the public on the roadside who have little or no English on a 24/7 basis*
- 4) The name of the contract that provide Interpreter Services to An Garda Síochána; When the contract is provide Interpreter Services with the current contract due to expire*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 28th January, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Section of An Garda Síochána to identify records held which show the fees paid for interpreter services. The table below shows the financial figure for interpreter translation Services for the requested years. The Finance Division has advised that the figure for 2020 contains amounts that were billed for previous years and paid in 2020.

Interpreter Services Expenditure for 2019 & 2020	
Year	Spend
2019	€1,872,359
2020	€4,705,010

The below table details the top 8 languages that are most requested for translation/interpretation Services.

Most Commonly Sought Languages for 2019 and 2020	
1.	Romanian
2.	Polish
3.	Lithuanian
4.	Russian
5.	Portuguese
6.	Mandarin
7.	Arabic
8.	Spanish

An Garda Síochána current contract for interpretation and translation services is supplied by translation.ie. The service supplied to An Garda Síochána provides full access to interpretation services, 24hrs per day, on a 24/7 basis in over 90 different languages. The contract with translation.ie expired on the 31st October 2020.

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-000007-2021**.

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-000007-2021 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



JANUARY, 2021.