

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-000301-2020 Request Part Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 1st September, 2020 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:

Could you provide me with the following information under the FOI Act 2014

- 1) The amount that An Garda Síochána spent on replacement of each type of uniform used by Garda Public Order Officers in the years 2018, 2019 and to-date in 2020 in tabular form. To assist you further what I am seeking eg In 2018 AGS Spent on X on replacement of riot shields, Y on replacement of riot helmets etc*
- 2) The last date and next date when each piece of Garda Public Order Uniform was last updated and when each is next due to be updated in tabular form eg Garda Riot Shields was last updated in June 2010 and are next due to be updated in January 2021, Garda Riot helmets were last updated in June 2018 and are next due to be updated in December 2023 and so on*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 13th October, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Directorate and Procurement Section within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records relating to your request. The table attached provides a breakdown of the requested records.

	2018	2019	2020
Public Order Shields	Nil	£21,253.50 (Sterling)	€8,440.83
Public Order Helmets	€13,500.00	Nil	€23,985.00
Public Order Batons	€2,075.00	€7,610.00	Nil
Public Order Coveralls	€97,103.15	Nil	€47,389.50
Public Order Kit Bags	Nil	€8,610.00	€7,318.50
Public Order Baseball Caps	€3,075.00	Nil	€3,075.00
Long Johns	€7,496.85	Nil	Nil
Public Order Leg/Thigh/Arm Guards	€9,532.50	Nil	Nil

I am refusing Part 2 of your request in accordance with Section 15 (1)(c) of the FOI Act, as the record requested is not held centrally but at divisional level. To compile a record identifying dates that equipment were replaced would require a disproportionate expenditure of Garda time and resources due to the fact that not all the equipment is replaced at the same time but on individual need basis. This would require a manual trawl through files and would cause a significant disruption to the daily workings of a particular Section of An Garda Síochána.

Section 15(1)(c) of the FOI Act 2014 states;

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,

However, I can advise that the contract for public order equipment was awarded in December 2019 and will be in place until December, 2023. This contract relates to all public order equipment.

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-000301-2020**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, 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-000301-2020) 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

13th OCTOBER, 2020.