

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Ríomh-phoist/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000408-2020 Request Part-Granted

**Dear**

I refer to your request, dated and received on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 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:

*This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2014.  
I am seeking:*

- 1. Details of the spend on personal protective equipment/safety gear for gardai from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. Please include breakdown of the spend on PPE/safety gear as follows: riot helmets; riot shields; anti-stab vests; hi-vis garda jackets; knee protective pads and elbow protective pads.*
- 2. Details of clerical allowances paid to gardai between 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. Please include the total amount paid to gardai and the number of individual recipients.*
- 3. Details of the costs associated with caring for animals in An Garda Síochána's dog and mounted units between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019.*

4. *Details of the number of injuries suffered by gardai while on duty in 2018 and 2019.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

**1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision**

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant sections of An Garda Síochána and a number of records have been provided to this Office.

Part 1 of your request seeks details of the spend on personal protective equipment/safety gear for An Garda Síochána from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. I can advise that the spend on Anti-Stab/Ballistic Vests was €626,450 and High Vis Jackets was €388,381.88 for 2019. In accordance with Section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act I am refusing to provide the rest of the records broken down in Part 1.

*15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –  
(d) the information is already in the public domain.*

The records requested by you were the subject of a previous FOI request (FOI-000301-2020) and it is the practice of An Garda Síochána to publish all non-personal requests on their decision log. You can access the requested records by following the link below:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/freedom-of-information/decision-log/>

The table below sets out the records sought in Part 2 of your request.

<b>CLERICAL ALLOWANCES</b>	
	<b>2019</b>
Total Amount Paid	€754,629
No. of Recipients	192

**Clerical/Administrative Designated Post Allowance**

A member who is employed in a "Garda" designated clerical/administrative post may\* receive a designated post allowance. A member occupying a (Civilian) non-designated post may\* be paid an ex-gratia sum, equivalent to the allowances mentioned at subsection (1), while he/she occupies such post. Eligibility for the ex-gratia sum will be subject to the following provisions:

- (a) That the member opted to transfer to outdoor duties; and
- (b) That it is not practicable to release the member from the post he/she occupies.

Only members who are employed in posts requiring attendance between 9.15am and 5.15pm on each day between Monday to Friday inclusive, e.g. Clerical posts or similar posts, will be entitled to receive the allowance (or the ex-gratia sum). Members who are in receipt of other allowances for special duties, will not be eligible to the paid allowance (or ex-gratia sum) under the terms of this section.

*\* It should be noted that by way of Government decision of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 both the Clerical Designated allowance and the Clerical Ex-gratia Allowance was abolished for new beneficiaries with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012. Any member of An Garda Síochána who takes up a post mentioned at (1) or (2) above will not be paid the relevant allowance if they are deemed to be a new beneficiary.*

I wish to advise you that I am also refusing Parts 3 and 4 of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act as stated above. The records sought were subject of previous FOI requests (FOI-000321-2020) and (FOI-000316-2020) which can also be accessed by following the above link.

## **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-000408-2020**.

**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-000408-2020) 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](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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

  
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**PAUL BASSETT**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2020.