

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

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000332-2021 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 27th September, 2021 and received on 28th September, 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:

I would like to make an FOI request from An Garda Síochána seeking the following:

Details of policing costs for football matches at Oriel Park Dundalk for 2019, 2020 and 2021

Copies of all correspondence between An Garda Síochána and Dundalk Football Club for 2018/2019/2020/2021

Details of all Garda reported incidents at football matches at Oriel Park, Dundalk for 2018/19/20/21

In this regard, I have decided to part-grant your request on the 26th October, 2021.

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 Section of An Garda Síochána and Dundalk District Office who have briefed this office regarding same. Under Section 30 of the

Garda Síochána Act 2005, An Garda Síochána may provide and charge for police services for events on private property or in areas open to the public if:

- (a) *It is in the public interest and consistent with the functions of An Garda Síochána to provide the services, and*
- (b) *The Commissioner is satisfied that the person has paid or will pay to the Commissioner the charges for the services.*

Non-public duty is performed by members of An Garda Síochána under arrangements made with organisers of events such as football matches, concerts and race meetings, etc. who seek to engage the services of members of An Garda Síochána to perform duties to which they would not normally be assigned.

Members of An Garda Síochána have been made available for the performance of such duties and the State has charged for their services. This work is normally performed by members who would otherwise be off duty. At all times, it is the policy of An Garda Síochána that the safety of the public must be the ultimate concern.

In respect of part 1 of your request, I can advise that no payments have been received in respect of football matches held in 2019, 2020 and 2021. I have been informed that in February 2019 €3,640 was paid in respect of matches held in 2017 and that in February 2020, €5040 was paid in respect of matches held in 2016.

I am refusing part 3 of your request which seeks “*Details of all Garda reported incidents at football matches at Oriel Park, Dundalk*”. As outlined above, An Garda Síochána is a partially included agency under the Freedom of Information Act. As such only administrative records pertaining to finance, procurement or human resources matters may be considered for release. The records sought in part three of your request relate to operational policing matters and fall outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it relates to An Garda Síochána. Therefore, I am refusing part three of your request pursuant to Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act.

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-000332-2021**.

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-000332-2021) 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

26 **OCTOBER 2021.**