

# 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)

Bí linn/Join us  

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

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000042-2021 Request Part-Granted

*Dear ,*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 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) Records of all internal communications related to the release of the video released here <https://twitter.com/gardainfo/status/1356554527806259200>.
- (2) I wish for my request to cover any expenditure on the video
- (3) as well as records relating to how much staff time was spent making the video.
- (4) I am especially interested in any record of objections from within An Garda Síochána to making the video for any reason. I wish for my request to cover the period 1/11/2020 to the current date.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. I have numbered your request for ease of reference.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

## 1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

On receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant section of An Garda Síochána who have advised this office that the total expenditure for the production of the Jerusalem video was €1,020.38. There were 34 individuals involved in the making of the video. This figure comprised of Garda members and Garda staff including an in-house videographer. We have been advised that the participants involved in the video who were scheduled to work were facilitated in this community engagement initiative, while others were off duty and gave their time free. The Garda Press Office coordinated this community engagement initiative and the Director of Communications signed off the campaign.

I am refusing part 1 of your request as we have been advised that the communications related to this video were conducted on the telephone and therefore and in accordance with Section 15 (1)(a) the record doesn't exist.

15(1) *A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –*  
(a) *The record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,*

In addition, I am refusing to supply “*record of objections from within An Garda Síochána to making the video for any reason. I wish for my request to cover the period 1/11/2020 to the current date.*” in accordance with Part (1)(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act which 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.

HR records refer to personal records of staff working within An Garda Síochána. They also relate to statistical information in respect of the organisation, e.g. sick leave, discipline, retirements, etc. Financial records relate to the financial expenditure of the organisation and procurement records relate to the contracting of services and the tendering process associated with same.

Part 4 of your request does not come within the ambit of this partially included agency as set out in Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it pertains to An Garda Síochána.

## 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-000042-2021**.

***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-000042-2021) 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](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,

  
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**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**  
**PAUL BASSETT**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021.