

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise
An Garda Síochána
Teach áth Luimnigh
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail
Baile Sheáin
An Uaimh
Contae na Mí
C15 DR90



Freedom of Information Office
An Garda Síochána
Athlumney House
IDA Business Park
Johnstown
Navan
Co Meath
C15 DR90

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-000300-2016 Partially Granted

Dear

I refer to your request dated and received on the 8th August 2016 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.

I have now made a final decision to partially grant your request on 1st September 2016.

Your request is shown below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 I'm requesting information on the amount paid in overtime to gardaí annually for 2015 and up to and including (if possible) August 2016.

Where possible, Under the Act, I'm requesting documents that reveal:

- 1. The overtime paid out per quarter across all six Garda regions between January 2015 to August 2016*
- 2. A breakdown per quarter and per region of the total overtime paid out during the same period of January 2015 to (if possible) August 2016.*

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

I am refusing Part 1 and 2 of your request as the information you have requested is already in the public domain. My decision has been made in accordance with section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act which states:

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,

I wish to advise that the Garda Overtime figures per Garda Region per Quarter for 2015 and Quarter 1 of 2016 are provided on the Freedom of Information Decision Log on the Garda Website at the following URL. **FOI-000152-2016** has reference:

<http://www.garda.ie/Documents/User/FOI-000152-2016%20Decision.pdf>

However, I am providing the amount of Garda overtime paid out during Quarter 2 of 2016 per Garda Region as outlined in the table below. Figures for Quarter 3 of 2016 are not yet available as of this date.

Garda Overtime Figures*	
2016	
REGION	Quarter 2
DMR	€11,056,542.21
Eastern	€1,664,524.90
Northern	€1,251,326.22
South Eastern	€1,343,629.51
Southern	€896,163.05
Western	€862,378.74
Totals	€17,074,564.63

**figures provided are provisional and liable to change and refer to the period when the overtime was paid and not necessarily when the overtime was incurred.*

The figures shown refer to the period the overtime was paid out and not necessarily the period the costs were incurred. This is due to a number of factors such as the fact that the roster system worked by An Garda Síochána does not align with the calendar months and payment of overtime is generally issued within two weeks after the end of each roster. Therefore overtime can be incurred in two different months and paid out in a third month. For example overtime incurred on 29th March 2016 is included in the roster ending 24th April 2016 which was paid in early May 2016. It is also possible, whilst not a widespread common occurrence, for overtime to be retrospectively claimed for previous months and recorded in the months the claim is paid and not the month the overtime was incurred.

Local Garda Management closely monitors the allocation of resources, including court attendance and overtime, in the context of crime trends, policing needs and other operational strategies in place on a District, Divisional and Regional level, to ensure optimum use is made of Garda resources, and the best possible Garda service is provided to the public. Senior Garda Management is satisfied that a full and comprehensive policing service continues to be delivered and that current structures in place meet the requirement to deliver an effective and efficient policing service to the community. This situation will be kept under review.

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-000300-2016**.

Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána,
Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown,
Navan,
Co. Meath
C15 DR90

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: Garda Síochána Finance Section Public Bank Account

Account Number: 10026896

Sort Code: 900017

IBAN: IE86B0F190001710026896

BIC: BOFIIIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000300-2016) 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 me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

2nd **SEPTEMBER 2016**