

An Garda Síochána

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



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

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bi linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000029-2016

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and your submissions to this body, dated and received on 19th January 2016.

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by An Garda Síochána:

'I'm requesting information on how much last year's All-Ireland football/hurling finals cost in over-time for extra Garda man power in Dublin city as well as general operational costs where possible, and a breakdown of those costs associated with the All-Ireland Finals on September 6 and September 20, 2015.'

In essence, how much did last year's All-Irelands cost An Garda Síochána?

I have now made a final decision to part grant your request.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access

Under Section 30 of An 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 the Garda Síochána under arrangements 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 done by members who would otherwise be off duty. It is generally the practice to charge organisations for the costs of duties performed by members inside the event.

In general, the cost of policing duties performed by Gardaí outside the event such as traffic control, beat patrols and other public policing duties which would be additional to those normally performed at the location, are not paid by the organisation hosting the event but fall to be paid from the Garda Vote.

In many cases it is difficult to define where the public duty ends and where the non-public liability of the organisation begins, but at all times, it is the policy of An Garda Síochána that the safety of the public must be the ultimate consideration.

The costs associated with the public duty element are not captured separately and are classified as normal overtime or rostered duty. These costs therefore cannot be analysed separately and it is not possible to provide overall costs. In this regard, I am applying Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act to your request wherein it states:

*A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –
(a) the record concerned does not exist.*

However, An Garda Síochána sought and received a contribution from the GAA for the non-public duty costs associated with policing the 2015 All-Ireland Finals. The sums received were:

- €36,655.55 (Hurling final – 06 Sept 2015)
- €40,528.64 (Football final – 20 Sept 2015)

2. Rights 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 **F01-000029-2016**.

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: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number 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,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

3rd February 2016