

# An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála 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

Bí linn/Join us



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-000465-2016 Part-Granted

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 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.

Your request sought:

- 1. The costs of external media monitoring services or any same such service for each year from 2006 to date.*
- 2. Details of any contracts or agreed statements of services provided (i.e. the agreed remit and scope of the service/terms of reference/key words used/ purpose and aims as agreed) to or by external media monitoring services or any same such service for each year from 2006 to date.*

I wish to inform you that I decided to partially grant your request on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

On receipt of your request, a search was conducted in the Finance Directorate Section of An Garda Síochána. It should be noted that Part 1, Section 2 (Interpretation) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014, states the effective date under Subsection (c) is defined as:

*“in the case of an entity that immediately prior to enactment of this Act, was not a public body within the meaning of the Act of 1997, but is a public body within the meaning of this Act, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008, unless provision is made to the contrary by order under Section 6”*

Therefore, as An Garda Síochána was not an included body prior to the commencement of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014, only records from 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008 may be provided.

In respect of Part 1 of your request *‘The costs of external media monitoring services or any same such service for each year from 2006 to date’*, the Finance Directorate has advise that there was no media monitoring company employed in the years 2008 to 2015. However, one payment was made for external media monitoring services in 2016 and this was to the value of €13,095.20.

Part 2 of your request sought *‘Details of any contracts or agreed statements of services provided (i.e. the agreed remit and scope of the service/terms of reference/key words used/ purpose and aims as agreed) to or by external media monitoring services or any same such service for each year from 2006 to date’*. I now wish to advise you that I am refusing this aspect of your request under Section 15(1)(a) which states:

*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,*

An Garda Síochána do not hold the information as requested. There is an Office of Government Procurement (OGP) Framework for Media Monitoring and the OGP is the Contracting Authority. The Framework covers the public sector and this includes An Garda Síochána. The Framework commenced on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016 and year one expires on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2017. The Framework allows for three further extensions to an overall maximum of 4 years duration. Details of the Framework and how it can be drawn down is set out on the OGP website [www.procurement.ie](http://www.procurement.ie)

The Framework is in 2 Lots and these are outlined as follows:

### **Lot 1:-**

Monitoring of all Media Sources - Print, Online, Social, and Broadcast Media.

### **Lot 2:-**

Monitoring of On line and Social Media only. Details of the companies on the Framework are set out on the OGP Website under Frameworks and Contracts. The overall Category in which the Media Monitoring Framework is contained is ‘Marketing Print and Stationary’.

## 2. Right of Appeal

In the event that you are not happy with this decision you may seek an Internal Review by writing to the address below and quoting reference number **F01-000465-2016**.

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 (FOI-00465-2016) 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](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,

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

19<sup>th</sup>  
**JANUARY 2017**