

# 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 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)

**Ms. Laura Colgan,  
News Reporter,  
Irish Daily Star.**

## **Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000296-2017 Request Granted**

*Dear Ms. Colgan,*

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2014 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. Details of clerical allowances paid to gardai in 2014, 2015 and 2016, including the total amount paid out each year and the number of gardai that received clerical allowances in each year.*

I advise that the FOI Act does not confer a general right of access to information; rather it confers a right of access to records. Therefore, your request for information has been treated as a request for access to records containing the information you seek.

I have now made a final decision to grant your request on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Section within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search for records relating to your request.

The table below sets out the total amount paid in respect of Clerical Allowances in 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively:

<b>CLERICAL ALLOWANCES</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Total Amount Paid</b>	<b>€1,341,403</b>	<b>€1,220,893</b>	<b>€1,097,921</b>
<b>No. of Recipients</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>276</b>

### **Clerical/Administrative Designated Post Allowance**

A member who is employed in a “Garda” designated clerical/administrative post may\* receive a designated post allowance. A member occupying a (Civilian) non-designated post may\* be paid an ex-gratia sum, equivalent to the allowances mentioned at subsection (1), while he/she occupies such post. Eligibility for the ex-gratia sum will be subject to the following provisions:

- (a) That the member opted to transfer to outdoor duties; and
- (b) That it is not practicable to release the member from the post he/she occupies.

Only members who are employed in posts requiring attendance between 9.15am and 5.15pm on each day between Monday to Friday inclusive, eg. Clerical posts or similar posts, will be entitled to receive the allowance (or the ex-gratia sum). Members who are in receipt of other allowances for special duties, will not be eligible to the paid allowance (or ex-gratia sum) under the terms of this section.

\*It should be noted that by way of Government decision of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 both the Clerical Designated allowance and the Clerical Ex-gratia Allowance was abolished for new beneficiaries with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012. Any member of An Garda Síochána who takes up a post mentioned at (1) or (2) above will not be paid the relevant allowance if they are deemed to be a new beneficiary.

The recruitment and appointment of up to 500 civilians provided for by Government this year will facilitate the Garda Commissioner in addressing capacity and critical skills gaps across the organisation including corporate supports, change management, human resources and financial management at the National, Regional and Divisional Level. These appointments will make an important contribution to the delivery of the ambitious reform agenda set out in the Commissioner’s Modernisation and Renewal Programme 2016-2021 and will facilitate increased civilianisation in the coming years. This will reduce the number of gardai in administrative positions throughout the organisation,

## **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-000296-2017**.

**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-000296-2017 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**

18<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017