

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

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000099-2017 Request Partially Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 7th March, 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:

*I would like to know what is the yearly allowance for each Garda to buy uniforms. If all uniforms are provided free of charge, could you please specify what kind of clothing items each Garda receives?.
Is cost of washing being refunded or are uniforms washed by dry cleaners and paid by Garda Office.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to partially grant your request on the 31st March, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions.

On receipt of your request, the Finance Section of An Garda Síochána conducted searches to identify records relevant to your request.

I advise that a complete list of all allowances available to members of An Garda Síochána is available on the Department of Justice and Equality's website at the following link:

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Garda%20Pay%20and%20Allowances%20wef%201-1-2010.xls/Files/Garda%20Pay%20and%20Allowances%20wef%201-1-2010.xls>

Therefore, I am refusing the first part of your request seeking “*the yearly allowance for each Garda to buy uniforms*” pursuant to section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act which states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests.

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

With regard to the parts of your request regarding the issuing and maintenance of uniforms I advise that uniforms are provided through a central purchasing section and are not paid for by gardaí and sergeants. A member of Inspector rank and above is obliged to purchase his/her uniform.

The Garda uniform incorporates elements of personal protection equipment (PPE) which are appropriate for the duties being performed. Certain types of duty require specific PPE elements to be included in the uniforms such as motorcycle and air support duties.

On entering the Garda College a student is provided with a standard uniform which consists of the following items:

- Hat
- Hat Cover
- Epaulettes
- Shirt
- T -Shirts
- Tie
- Tie Pin
- Trousers
- Belt
- Shoes
- Fleece
- Waterproof navy Jacket
- High Visibility waterproof Jacket
- High Visibility light weight jacket

Each member of the is required to maintain an operational and a formal uniform. It is a disciplinary offence not to comply with An Garda Síochána’s dress code or to be untidy in uniform.

Members are paid a taxable uniform allowance for maintenance and upkeep which varies in amount depending on the rank of the member and the type of uniform to be made.

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-000099-2017**.

Freedom of Information, 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-000099-2017) 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.

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 .

31st MARCH, 2017.