

# 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)

Riomh-phoist:/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

**Mr. Mark O'Regan.**  
**News Reporter,**  
**Sunday Independent,**

## **Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000150-2017 Request Refused**

*Dear Mr. O'Regan,*

I refer to your request dated and received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 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 total amount spent in 'performance related' bonus payments in each year since 2008. I am seeking this data under the various headings for which the monies was paid. I am also seeking the number of people who received such payments in each of the past five years.*
- 2. The amount spent in 'performance related' bonus payments to the Garda Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Change Management, Deputy Commissioner, Operations, and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). I am seeking data for each year since 2008.*
- 3. The total amount spent and the number of senior managers who received 'performance related' bonus payments in each year since 2008.*
- 4. The amount spent in any form of 'performance related' bonus payments to divisional officers who reached specified performance targets. This is limited to payments made in each year since 2008.*

I wish to inform you that I have now made a decision to refuse your request on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions.

I can now advise you that on receipt of your request, a copy of same was forwarded to the Finance Directorate of An Garda Síochána for their perusal. In this regard, I am refusing your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act 2014 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—**  
*(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,*

Following an extensive search in the Finance Directorate, no records have been identified in respect of performance-related bonus payments from the years 2008 to date.

The performance-related awards scheme which was operated by the Department of Finance, was abolished by the then Minister for Finance in February 2009. There was no cost to the Garda Vote. The records sought by you may be held by the Department of Finance. The FOI Officer at the Department of Finance may be contacted at [foi@finance.ie](mailto:foi@finance.ie).

## **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 **FOI-000150-2017**.

*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:** BOFIIIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-0000150-2017) 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 will be removed to protect confidentiality where applicable.

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.**

**26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017.**