

# 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)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000500-2017 Request Granted

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 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:

*'How much has been spent on Garda overtime so far in 2017 and a breakdown of the top 20 payments made to members in the first 10 months of this year. Can you please state which of these payments were made to rank-and-file members, sergeants or inspectors'*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

Details of your request were provided to the Finance Directorate within An Garda Síochána who conducted a search of their records.

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In respect of the first part of your request wherein you are seeking ‘*How much has been spent on Garda overtime so far in 2017*’, I am to advise you that €106,874,624 has been spent on Garda overtime for 2017 up to and including 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017.

The nature of Garda work and the requirement that the Garda authorities respond, in some cases at short notice, to immediate policing demands means that there is a necessity to incur overtime expenses to ensure effective policing. Accordingly, there will always be a need for a certain level of overtime to allow An Garda Síochána flexibility when responding to circumstances that require additional resources for specific operations. These additional resources will have to be over and above those available from Gardaí on rostered duty thus ensuring the continuation of normal policing duties unabated.

In addition, a number of police led operations, in various years, required the deployment of extra resources on overtime. This includes the implementation of anti-crime and anti-burglary initiatives. Similarly, non-crime related events and events organized by interest groups within the general public can require overtime to police effectively as additional Gardaí may need to be deployed to ensure public safety.

The second part of your request sought ‘*a breakdown of the top 20 payments made to members in the first 10 months of this year. Can you please state which of these payments were made to rank-and-file members, sergeants or inspectors*’. The Finance Directorate ran a report on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 and have identified the records below in this regard. It should be noted that overtime is only payable to members at Garda, Sergeant and Inspector rank.

**Table A: List of members receiving highest overtime payments\***

	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Total</i>			<i>Rank</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>1</b>	SERGEANT	€74,268		<b>11</b>	SERGEANT	€59,505
<b>2</b>	SERGEANT	€73,181		<b>12</b>	GARDA	€58,917
<b>3</b>	SERGEANT	€71,609		<b>13</b>	GARDA	€58,849
<b>4</b>	GARDA	€68,641		<b>14</b>	GARDA	€57,975
<b>5</b>	GARDA	€67,011		<b>15</b>	GARDA	€57,794
<b>6</b>	GARDA	€65,158		<b>16</b>	GARDA	€57,541
<b>7</b>	INSPECTOR	€64,255		<b>17</b>	GARDA	€57,291
<b>8</b>	GARDA	€63,471		<b>18</b>	SERGEANT	€57,253
<b>9</b>	GARDA	€60,070		<b>19</b>	GARDA	€57,131
<b>10</b>	SERGEANT	€60,045		<b>20</b>	SERGEANT	€57,061

\* The figures shown refer to the amount of overtime paid out and not necessarily the period within which the costs were incurred. This is due to a number of factors such as the fact that

the roster system worked by An Garda Síochána does not align with the calendar months and payment of overtime is generally issued within two weeks after the end of each roster.

Therefore, overtime can be incurred in two different months and paid out in a different third month. For example, overtime incurred on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017 is included in the roster ending 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017 which was paid in early October 2017. It is also possible, whilst not a widespread common occurrence, for overtime to be retrospectively claimed for previous months and recorded in the months the claim is paid and not the month the overtime was incurred.

## **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-000500-2017**.

***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-000500-2017) 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**  
**SHARON KENNEDY**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

23 NOVEMBER 2017