

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 ND62



Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown, Navan,
Co Meath.
C15 ND62

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie



Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000164-2024 Request Part Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 7th May, 2024 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. According to the Freedom Of Information Act, what is the number of fatalities in toto – in total of serving An Garda Síochána staff from all regions of Ireland, between the dates of 1st of January 2020 and 7th of May 2024.*
- 2. How much money in total has An Garda Síochána unexpectedly needed to use by recruiting new An Garda Síochána members. The latter as a result of fatalities from serving Garda Síochána members between 1st January 2020 and 7th May 2024*
- 3. How many widowed bereavement pensions have An Garda Síochána paid out in total between 1st January 2020 and 7th May 2024 from serving Garda*
- 4. What was the biggest month in terms of numerical value from serving Garda fatalities between 1st January 2020 to 7th May 2024*
- 5. What was the average of serving An Garda Síochána fatalities per month between 1st January 2020 and 7th May 2024*
 - 1a. How many contracts suddenly expired in An Garda Síochána resulting from loss of life between 1st January 2020 and 7th of May 2024*

- 2a. *Would it be necessary to share the relevant answers with all An Garda Síochána and other law enforcement agencies locally, nationally and internationally*
- 3a. *Will you take a leap of faith in sharing, anyone who has been vaccinated will need to use a heavy metal detoxification procedure, such as 'non' GMO Chlorella and Cilantro (Coriander) in water 3 times a day for 2 to 3 months*
- 4a. *Furthermore, one would appreciate your assistance as an ex gratia – as favour, in particular with an efficient method in finding historical information relevant to the ancient city and county of Meath, This request would be especially pleasing in how to find the full names of local and high Kings of EIRE, Hibernia, Ierne, Iouernia and Hiberio.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 21st May, 2024. The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt your request was forwarded to the relevant Section of An Garda Síochána who have provided records to this office in response to your request. In relation to part 1 of your request the tables below outlines the number of deaths in service for both members and Garda staff from 1st January, 2020 to 7th May, 2024.

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
13	10	12	12	2

I am refusing parts 2, 4, and 5 of your request on the grounds that the relevant Garda Sections do not hold the records sought in the manner requester. I must therefore apply the provisions of Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act to these parts of your request. Section 15(1)(a) states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken

I am also refusing part 2 of your request. Pensions in respect of Garda members and staff are paid by the Department of Justice. As such the records sought in part two of your request are not held by An Garda Síochána. The above mentioned Section 15(1)(a) also applies to part 2 of your request.

I am refusing parts 2a, 3a, and 4a of your request. Firstly, I wish to advise that Section 11 of the FOI Act provides for a right of access to records held by FOI bodies. Requests for information are therefore not valid requests under the Act, as opposed to requests for records. FOI bodies are not required to create records under the Act if none. The Act does not oblige FOI bodies to answer general queries nor provide a mechanism for answering questions except to the extent that a question can reasonably be inferred to be a request for records which contain the answer to the question asked or the information sought.

Secondly, the Freedom of Information Act 2014 provides for a right of access to records held by public bodies. However, in the case of An Garda Síochána the Act places certain limits on the types of records, held by An Garda Síochána, which are subject to release under the Act. An Garda Síochána is defined by the Act as a partially included agency for the purposes of the Act. Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the Act states that the Act does not apply to An Garda Síochána

"other than 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 matters can be considered for release. In accordance with Part 1(n), all other records held by An Garda Síochána are excluded from release.

HR records refer to personal records of staff working within An Garda Síochána. They also relate to statistical information in respect of the organisation, e.g sick leave, discipline, retirements, etc. Financial records relate to the financial expenditure of the organisation and procurement records relate to the contracting of services and the tendering process associated with same.

The records sought in parts 2a, 3a and 4a of your request do not consist of administrative records relating to human resources, finance or procurement matters. Therefore, the records sought in your request are excluded from the provisions of the FOI Act and no right of access to these records exists. As a result, I must refuse your request in accordance with Part 1(n) of Schedule 1, as it falls outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it pertains to An Garda Síochána.

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-000164-2024**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62

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: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

Account Number: 30000302

Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302

BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000164-2024) is included in the payment details.

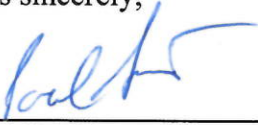
You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

21st MAY, 2024.