

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

Bf linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000087-2022 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 17th February, 2022 and received on 18th February, 2022 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:

I am writing in regards to gardai numbers.

- 1. Please state the current number of officers in the gardai. Please break this down by rank. If possible, provide comparison figures for 2017 and 2012.*
- 2. Please state the number of officers whose birthplace/nationality is Northern Ireland. Please break this down by rank. If possible, provide comparison figures for 2017 and 2012.*
- 3. Please state the number of officers who previously served with the PSNI. Please break this down by rank. If possible, provide comparison figures for 2017 and 2012.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 1st March 2022.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant sections within An Garda Síochána.

The table below refers to point 1 of your request and outlines the number of Officers in An Garda Síochána in 2012, 2017 and 2022

	31/01/2022	31/01/2017	31/01/2012
Commissioner	1	1	1
Deputy Commissioner	2	2	2
Assistant Commissioner	8	8	7
Chief Superintendent	48	44	37
Superintendent	165	165	147
Inspector	408	307	319
Sergeant	1,877	1,936	2,017
Garda	11,845	10,460	11,325
Total	14,354	12,923	13,855

In relation to part 2 of your request, as at 22/02/2022 1 Assistant Commissioner, 2 Superintendents and 5 Gardaí have Northern Irish as nationality. The Garda HR system is unable to capture historical data on members' nationality and as such records for Northern Irish Nationality for 2012 and 2017 do not exist. As a result, I am refusing this aspect of your request in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act. Section 15(1)(a) states that:

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

Part 3 of your request refers to the number of members who served in the PSNI. I can confirm that as at 22/02/2022 there are 1 Commissioner, 1 Assistant Commissioner and 4 Superintendents, who are former PSNI members. Figures for 2012 and 2017 are not available from the Garda HR System. Therefore I am also refusing this aspect of your request in accordance with the aforementioned Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act.

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-000087-2022**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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:

2

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-000087-2022) 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.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
PAUL BASSETT
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

1st MARCH, 2022.