

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Bí linn/Join us  

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

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000165-2021 Request Part-Grant

*Dear*

I refer to your request, dated 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 and received on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 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 number of Gardai currently serving in Kildare, in tabular format by station, rank, and membership of a specialist unit*
2. *The number of Gardai that are currently members of more than one specialist unit*
3. *The number of officers currently serving in Kildare due to retire in 2020/21.*
4. *The number of officers due to join the service in Kildare in 2020/21.*
5. *The number of officers injured whilst serving in Kildare in 2019/20.*
6. *The number of officers specifically designated to the following areas; Newbridge, Kilcullen, Kildare Town, Monasterevin, Portarlinton, Rathangan Athy, and Castledermot in tabular format by station, rank, and membership of a specialist unit*
7. *The number of hours officers are present per week in these specific areas.*
8. *The number of patrol cars available to officers in these areas at any given time.*
9. *A breakdown of the types of crimes reported in 2018 and 2019 in Newbridge, Kilcullen, Kildare Town, Monasterevin, Portarlinton, Rathangan, Athy and Castledermot in tabular format by station, rank, and membership of a specialist unit*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to **part grant** your request on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.

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The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision. I have numbered the various parts of your request for ease of reference.

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

Details of your request were provided to the Human Resources and the Health and Safety Sections of An Garda Síochána to identify records containing the information you have requested. Records have been located and provided to this office in respect of your request.

I am refusing part 1 & 6 of your FOI request in accordance with Section 15(1)(d) of the FOI Act. The number of Garda member's currently serving in the Kildare Division including a break down to station level is available on the Garda website. In addition I am refusing part of your request where you sought records in relation to vehicles available to the Kildare division. These records are also available on the Garda website and can be accessed by following the links below.

<https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/human-resources-and-people-development/garda-hr-directorate/garda-numbers-by-station-30-04-2021.pdf>

<https://garda.ie/en/about-us/our-departments/finance-services/garda-fleet-management-report-april-2021.pdf>

#### **Section 15 of the FOI Act States;**

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.

Part 3 of your request sought “*The number of officers currently serving in Kildare due to retire in 2020/21*”. The table below details the number of Garda members by rank in the Kildare Division who have retired in 2020/2021. It also includes those who have submitted their application to retire or must retire on age grounds in 2021, as of the 19 May 2021. These figures include voluntary retirements, compulsory retirements, cost neutral early retirements, resignations, medical discharges, dismissals and deaths in service.

#### **Departures as of 7 May 2021**

	<b>Com</b>	<b>D/Com</b>	<b>AC</b>	<b>C/Supt</b>	<b>Supt</b>	<b>Insp.</b>	<b>Sgt</b>	<b>Garda</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2021</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	<b>5</b>
<b>2020</b>	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	4	<b>7</b>

I am refusing Parts 2, 7 & 9 of your FOI request pursuant to of Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act which 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 for 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 FOI Act excludes operational policing business as opposed to the defined administrative processes of An Garda Síochána. As a result, the core business of An Garda Síochána is safeguarded from release under the provisions of the FOI Act. I am satisfied that the records sought in Parts 2, 7, and 9 of your request relate to operational policing matters and therefore fall outside the scope of the FOI Act insofar as it relates to An Garda Síochána.

I am refusing part 4 of your request in accordance with Section 15 1(a) of the FOI Act as the records doesn't exist in the format requested.

*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,*

Garda Members who are attested out of the Garda College serve a probationary period in Garda Stations. These appointments are made through the Garda College, Garda Recruitment and these appointments are not confirmed until the members are attested. Decisions on the deployment of newly attested Gardai and the redeployment of existing members to any particular location are based on a wide range of factors. It is not possible to determine in advance the number of Gardai who may be deployed to any particular location in advance of such operational decisions being made. As such, the record sought at part 4 of your request does not exist at this time.

The Health & Safety Section of An Garda Síochána has provided records in relation to Part 5 of your request. The table below gives a breakdown of the number on injuries for the requested years in the Kildare Division.

<b>Number of Employees Injured within Kildare Division</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number</b>
2019	14
2020	15

## **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-000165-2021**.

**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:

**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-000165-2021 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

25<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2021.