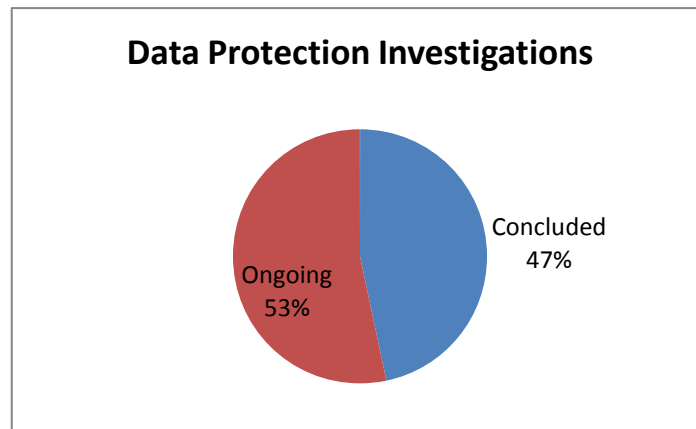


Annual Report on Data Protection in An Garda Síochána 2014

Responsibility for data protection in An Garda Síochána lies within the organisational remit of Assistant Commissioner Organisation Development & Strategic Planning and is managed through the Data Protection Unit at the Garda Central Vetting Unit, Racecourse Road, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

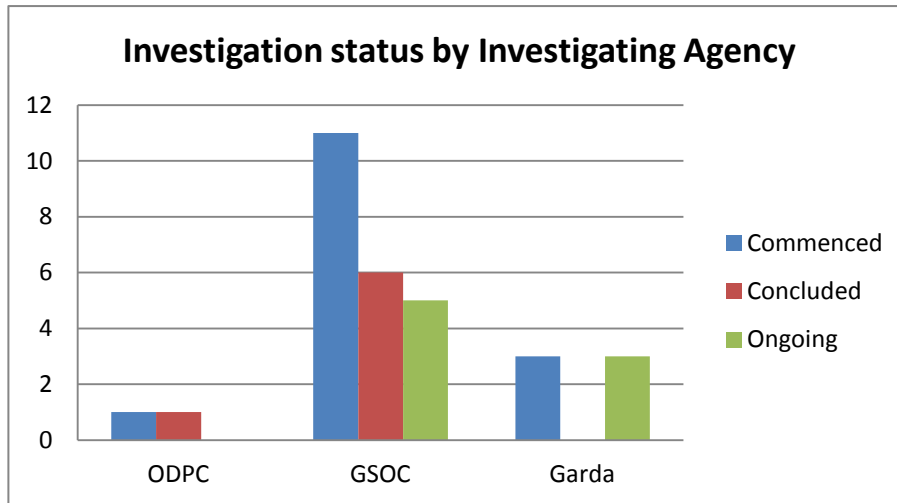
On a daily basis, An Garda Síochána manages and processes vast amounts of data and information. In relation to providing an ongoing assurance of An Garda Síochána's commitment to ensuring compliance with the Data Protection Acts, this report outlines the overall view of investigations conducted in relation to suspected breaches of the Data Protection Acts by members of An Garda Síochána during 2014.



Commenced	Concluded	Ongoing
15	7	8

An analysis of the investigations commenced shows that of the 15 investigations commenced:

- One (1) was on foot of a complaint to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.
- Eleven (11) were on foot of a complaint to the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission.
- Three (3) were internal disciplinary investigations.



	ODPC	GSOC	Garda
Commenced	1	11	3
Concluded	1	6	
Ongoing		5	3

Of the seven (7) concluded investigations:

- One (1) case was concluded by the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.
- Two (2) cases concluded finding that the member investigated was not in breach.
- One (1) case concluded that the member was in breach and resulted advice being given.
- In the remaining three (3) cases the investigation was discontinued. In two cases this was due to insufficient evidence and in one case the injured party failed to co-operate with the investigation.

While it is unacceptable that any member of An Garda Síochána should inappropriately disclose information, the relatively low number of investigations indicates that the majority of members are in compliance with the Data Protections Acts and the Garda Data Protection Code of Practice.

The Garda Professional Standards Unit have continued to conduct random audits of 'Reason for Inquiry' in respect of searches on Persons, Vehicles and Locations on PULSE as outlined in HQ Directive 95/2012. In the period December 2012 to March 2015 the following audits have been conducted:

Initial Audit	98 districts
Follow-up audit	63 districts
Third audit	3 district

The majority of districts which have been audited a second time have recorded noticeable improvements. The full rollout of our audit procedure took place in May 2014 with the issue of HQ Directive 44/2014. All District Officers can now access a management

report to assist them in ensuring compliance with policy with accessing personal data on PULSE.

In respect of requests for access to personal data in accordance with Section 4 of the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003, 11,042 access requests were received by An Garda Síochána during 2014 and 9,941 requests were completed with the average processing time of 14 days. There were nine (9) requests for access to personal data cases under investigation by the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, with one at Final Warning stage.

This report has been provided to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner