

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saoráil Faisnéise
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 DR 90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000186-2015

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and to your submissions to An Garda Síochána, dated and received on 18th December 2015.

Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 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 is shown below:

‘My name is [REDACTED] and I am contesting the general election 2016 as an independent candidate with my main focus being crime and ensuring the county has adequate Garda numbers and resources. I have been contacted this morning by several people concerned about the recent spate of burglaries that I believe have happened in Wexford over the last few days. I am wondering can you supply me with the following information:

- (1) is burglaries up on previous month*
- (2) how many new gardai have been recruited in County Wexford*
- (3) have the gardai a definite line of enquiry in regards to recent burglaries*
- (4) is there extra patrols on duty to curb this issue*
- (5) how many community based gardai has the district currently got?!*

and if not could you point me in the direction of who may be able to? I understand some of the above questions may be operational but I would appreciate any information you may be able to give to put the public at ease. I am basing my campaign on doing as much as I can to assist the gardai if elected’.

I now wish to inform you that your request has been **part-granted**.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access

I understand a member of my staff spoke to you with regard to your request.

In respect of Part 2 of your request, I can advise you that 15 newly attested Garda members were appointed to Wexford Division in 2015. In respect of Part 5 of your request there are currently 8 Gardaí selected as Community Gardaí in the Wexford Division. This figure does not reflect the fact that all operational Gardaí in the Wexford Division act as Community Gardaí in the course of their duty. It is the responsibility of all operational members to work with their respective communities to prevent crime and anti social behavior, reduce the fear of crime and bring offenders to justice. This interaction aims to improve the overall quality of life within the community where the Gardaí serve.

In addition a Garda Victims Service Office was established in the Wexford Division in 2015 as part of the Garda Community Relations service. The Wexford Garda Victim Service Office can be contacted at 053 9165297.

Community policing is not necessarily a specialist role, but rather an “ethos”, which has been integrated and mainstreamed throughout An Garda Síochána. Each individual Garda is capable of engaging with members of their community on policing related matters and provide advice and assistance as necessary. More information regarding community policing can be obtained from www.garda.ie

As previously advised, the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 insofar as it relates to An Garda Síochána is limited to administrative records held relating to human resources, finance or procurement. In this regard, Parts 1, 3, and 4 of your request fall outside the scope of the Act and therefore the request for information on these matters cannot be acceded to.

However, the records sought in Part 1 of your request may be available from the Central Statistics Office website at www.cso.ie. I have also provided the Freedom of Information contact information for the Central Statistics Office for your ease of reference:

Freedom of Information Officer
Central Statistics Office,
Skehard Road,
Cork
Tel No: (021) 4535000
Ext: 5168 or email: foi@cso.ie

1. 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 **F01-0000186-2015**.

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: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number 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 me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

18th January 2015