

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Faisnéise
An Garda Síochána
Teach áth Luimnigh
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail
Baile Sheáin
An Uaimh
Contae na Mí

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Bí linn/Join us



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

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000352-2016 Partially Grant

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and your submission to this body, dated and received on 28th September 2016.

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) How many sick days did members of the Gardai take in 2014 and 2015*
- 2) How many members of AGS are currently on long term sick leave*
- 3) How many members of AGS hold a Masters qualification*
- 4) How many members of AGS have received training abroad and what was the nature of this training?*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to partially grant your request on 9th November 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access

With regard to the first part of your request, I advise that I am refusing access to number of sick days member's of An Garda Síochána took in 2014 and 2015 under Section 15(1)(d) which states:

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 –

(d) the information is already in the public domain,

I advise that 2 previous requests also sought the same records for the period 2014 and 2015 and responses to these are available on the Decision Log on the Garda website which may be accessed by following the attached link:

(<http://www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=16977&Lang=1>).

I can also advise that the sick leave statistics comparing 2013, 2014 and 2015 are also available on the recently published Annual Report 2015 which is also available on the Garda website and may be accessed by following the attached link:

(<http://garda.ie/Documents/User/Annual%20Report%20English.pdf>)

On receipt of your request it was forwarded in to Human Resources Section who have supplied the following information outlined the table below. This contains information regarding to part 2 of your request which seeks to know *“how many members of An Garda Síochána are currently on long term sick leave”*.

Total No. of Garda members absent on long term sick leave (28 continuous days or more) as of 30th September 2016	
No of Garda Members	241

Sick Leave Statistics for the period 30th September 2016 as recorded on SAMS

The figures above are inclusive of those members who may not only be availing of a one day absence but also those who were out one day or more on each of the dates you have sought. They are also inclusive of those who are absent due to being injured on duty. In addition to this, if a Garda or a Civilian member is availing of long term sick leave, their rest days and weekends are also taken into account for the purpose of the calculation of sick leave.

Part 3, of your request enquires as to the *“how many members of An Garda Síochána hold a Masters qualification”*. Please see table below outlining the number of Garda members who hold a Masters qualification.

Total No. of Garda members that hold a Masters Qualification (25th October 2016).	
No of Garda Members	209

It should be noted, that although a number of members have pursued and obtained a Masters Qualification during their career in An Garda Síochána, there are members who joined the force and who already held a Masters Qualification but may or may not have disclosed this information at the time of entry. Therefore, the figure outlined above may not accurately reflect the true number of Garda members who hold such a qualification.

Part 4 of your request seeks to know *“how many members of An Garda Síochána have received training abroad and what was the nature of this training”*.

Since 2014 there have been 6 members of An Garda Síochána that have attended the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

The McCabe Fellowship was established in 1996 to memorialise the career and service of Detective Garda Jerry McCabe, following his tragic death.

The Fellowship programme provides for the regular exchange of professionals from An Garda Síochána and law enforcement professionals who are students at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York. I wish to advise you that this information was sought in a previous request and responses to this are available on the Decision log on the Garda website and may be accessed by the following attached link.

(<http://www.garda.ie/Documents/User/FOI-000044/2016-2016%20Decision.pdf>).

2. Rights 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-000352-2016.

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: IE86BoF190001710026896
BIC: BOFIIIE2D

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,

Helen Deely SUPERINTENDENT.
HELEN DEELY.
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

14th November 2016.