

# 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 DR90



Freedom of Information Office  
An Garda Síochána  
Athlumney House  
IDA Business Park  
Johnstown  
Navan  
Co Meath  
C15 DR90

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-000389-2016 Request Granted

**Dear**

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) and your submission to An Garda Síochána dated and received on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 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 is shown below:

*How many active members are there currently in the Garda Reserves?*

*In terms of hours worked by members of the Garda Reserve, how many of the members work*

- less than 40 hours a year?*
- work between 40 and 80 hours a year?*
- work between 80 and 120 hours a year?*
- work over 120 hours a year?*

*How many members of the Garda Reserves have left in the last 12 months?*

I understand that following a discussion with a member of my staff that you were agreeable to amend your request seeking the hours worked to seek the number of reserves who have qualified for the annual allowance.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

The Garda Síochána Act, 2005 provides for the establishment of a Garda Reserve. The Garda Reserve is a voluntary unpaid body drawn from the community to assist the existing Service in various policing duties.

Reserve Gardaí have certain garda powers while on duty and perform their policing duties as determined by the Commissioner under the supervision of, and supported by, regular garda members.

The principal role of the Reserve consists of local patrols and crime reduction initiatives, targeted at specific local urban or rural problem areas.

Members of the Garda Reserve are also involved in policing major incidents and events, and in providing other operational support to regular garda members on the basis of an individual garda reserve member's skills or local knowledge. They are expected to provide a quality service at all times and are a clear sign of partnership between An Garda Síochána and the community.

On receipt of your request, the Human Resources and People Development section was contacted to provide the information you seek. They have advised as follows:

In relation to the first part of your request there were a total of 737 active reserves as of 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016.

The second part of your request was amended to seek the number of reserves who have qualified for the annual allowance. Garda reserves are required to work a minimum of 208 hours per year, calculated on the date of commencement of training, in order to qualify for an annual allowance of €1,000. If a reserve fails to reach that requirement, the issue is monitored and dealt with by their respective Liaison Inspectors and District Officers. As of the 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016, 273 reservists have qualified for this allowance.

In relation to the final part of your request, I advise that 241 reserves resigned between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

## **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-000389-2016**

Freedom of Information Office,  
An Garda Síochána,  
Athlumney House,  
IDA Business Park,  
Johnstown,  
Navan,  
Co. Meath  
C15 DR90

Ag obair le Pobail chun iad a chosaint agus chun freastal orthu / Working with Communities to Protect and Serve

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 (FOI-000389-2016) 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 will be removed to protect confidentiality where applicable.

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.**

22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016