Mr. Mark O'Regan

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000219-2017
Request Granted

Dear Mr. O'Regan,

I refer to your request, dated and received on 17th May 2017, 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. All correspondence received by Garda Commissioner, Noirin O'Sullivan, from any TD in relation to the appointment of a member of An Garda Síochána to any vacancy within the force.

2. All internal correspondence sent by Garda Commissioner, Noirin O'Sullivan, to any TD, regarding the appointment of any member of An Garda Síochána to any vacancy within the force.

I am seeking correspondence from January 2017 to the present date.

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 6th June 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.
1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions.

Following a search of titles of correspondence received in the Office of the Garda Commissioner using the words ‘Appoint’, ‘Vacancy’, ‘Vacancies’, ‘Deputy’ ‘T.D.’ and ‘TD’, the attached correspondence from Deputy Charlie McConalogue, TD dated 28th April 2017 has been identified in respect of your request. An acknowledgment to Deputy McConalogue’s correspondence dated 4th May 2017 has also been identified and is enclosed for your information.

Garda personnel assigned throughout the country, together with overall policing arrangements and operational strategy, are continually monitored and reviewed and is determined by a number of factors including population, crime trends and as the policing needs of each individual division dictates. Such monitoring ensures that optimum use is made of Garda resources, and the best possible Garda service is provided to the general public.

In regard to the deployment of Garda personnel, a distribution model is used which takes into account all relevant factors including population, crime trends and as the policing needs of each individual Division dictates. It is the responsibility of the Divisional Officer to allocate personnel within his/her Division.

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-0000219-2017.


You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-0000219-2017 is included your appeal application.

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. 7TH JUNE 2017

Seirbhísí gairmiúla póilínearachta agus slándála a sholáthar le hiontaoibh, muimín agus taiclocht na ndaoine ar a bhfeastaílimid
To deliver professional policing and security services with the trust, confidence and support of the people we serve
CMR_81-195329/17

Deputy Charlie McConalogue TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: Garda Resources – Donegal

Dear Deputy McConalogue,

I am directed by the Commissioner to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of the 28 April 2017.

This matter is receiving attention and further correspondence will be forwarded in course.

Yours sincerely

Sean O'Reardon
Inspector
Commissioner's Office

May 2017
28 April 2017

Commissioner Nóirín O’Sullivan,
Garda Headquarters
Phoenix Park
Dublin 8

Dear Commissioner,

I write to you regarding the recent figures on the allocation of new Garda recruits. Donegal as a whole was allocated 13 new Gardaí since 2014. This was out of a total of 839 new graduates.

This is in comparison to 21 for the Cavan Monaghan Region and 42 for Louth; both of which are also border counties with similar populations to Donegal.

While I welcome the new recruits, it is disappointing for me and my constituents that a more considerable allocation was not given to the County. The news of the new recruits coming to Donegal coincides with a spate of burglaries across the County. The new allocation has done little to ease the fears of communities who have been plagued by burglaries—especially those located along the border.

I would appreciate it if you could advise whether this allocation can now be reviewed and if not, if you could ensure that Donegal be given priority in the next allocation of new recruits. I would appreciate it if you could tell me what criteria was used in order to allocate the new recruits.

Thank you for your attention to this and I look forward to hearing from you on this important issue.

Yours Sincerely,

Charlie McConalogue TD

Constituency Office
Chapel St.,
Carrickfinn,
Dungiven.
074 93 3291
charliemcconalogue@eircom.net

Fianna Fáil
Spokesperson on Agriculture, Food and the Marine