

An Garda Síochána

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



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

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-000010-2016 Partial Grant

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and my correspondence to you of 12th January 2016 and to your submissions to this body, dated and received on 12th January 2016.

I refer to the request which you made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by An Garda Síochána:

'I wish to request a record of staffing levels of An Garda Síochána at station (sub-district) level for December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2015 (ideally in spreadsheet format).'

I have now made a final decision to **part grant** your request.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

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

Your request is being refused under section 32(1)(a)(i) and 32(1)(a)(ii) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 as I am of the opinion that this information can be reasonably expected, if used inappropriately, to prejudice or impair the Garda Organisation operational capabilities in:

- (i) *"the prevention, detection or investigation of offences, the apprehension or prosecution of offenders or the effectiveness of lawful methods, systems, plans or procedures employed for the purposes of the matter aforesaid"*
- (ii) *"the enforcement of, compliance with or administration of any law"*

The detail sought by you in your request seeks to identify, in detail, the operational capabilities of An Garda Síochána on a station (sub-district) level. This type of information is not provided due to its operational sensitivity. This information, if made available, could reasonably be expected to pose a risk to the safety of local Gardaí when endeavoring to enforce legislation and keep the public peace in the future. If the number of Gardaí were provided on a station (sub-district) level, it is reasonable to believe that a criminal organisation could use this information to assess the capabilities of the local Gardaí to deal with certain types of crimes, thus prejudicing the Garda Organisation's effectiveness in enforcing legislation. The duty roster system in use in An Garda Síochána is available in the public domain and cross referencing that system with the number of Gardaí on a station (sub-district) basis, could allow for a prediction to be made as to the response capabilities of Gardaí by a criminal organisation. This is an unnecessary risk to the law enforcement procedures employed in stations (sub-districts) and the staff of same.

However, I am in a position to provide you with the number of Gardaí by rank from Garda to Chief Superintendent inclusive within each Division. Please see Appendix A & B attached.

Appendix A outlines Garda resources as of 31st December 2014 and Appendix B as of 31st December 2015.

There are a number of vacancies at the various ranks and a number of competitions are currently underway to fill these.

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 **F01-000010-2016**.

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: 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

8th February 2016

Appendix A
Garda Numbers as of 31.12.2014*

DIVISION	Chief Superintendent	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	Garda	Total
DMR SOUTH CENTRAL	1	3	14	80	544	642
DMR SOUTHERN	1	3	13	75	457	549
DMR NORTHERN	1	5	15	88	572	681
DMR WEST	0	4	17	85	593	699
DMR NORTH CENTRAL	1	4	14	90	498	607
DMR EAST	1	3	7	50	327	388
DMR OFFICE	0	1	5	9	40	55
DMR TRAFFIC DIVISION	2	2	4	17	111	136
WICKLOW	1	3	8	46	265	323
LOUTH	1	3	8	47	222	281
MEATH	1	4	4	44	228	281
WESTMEATH	1	4	6	35	198	244
LAOIS/OFFALY	1	3	6	44	222	276
KILDARE	0	3	5	45	248	301
WEXFORD	1	3	5	40	202	251
WATERFORD	1	3	7	40	223	274
KILKENNY/CARLOW	0	4	6	39	229	278
TIPPERARY	1	4	5	50	299	359
CORK CITY	1	6	13	105	545	670
CORK NORTH	1	3	5	48	240	297
CORK WEST	1	3	4	41	222	271
KERRY	1	2	5	44	238	290
LIMERICK	1	4	9	75	476	565
CLARE	1	2	5	37	242	287
GALWAY	1	6	11	82	469	569
ROSCOMMON/LONGFORD	1	3	4	50	227	285
MAYO	1	4	4	45	244	298
SLIGO/LEITRIM	1	2	6	47	239	295
DONEGAL	1	4	7	55	330	397
CAVAN/MONAGHAN	1	5	6	57	254	323
GARDA HQ & NATIONAL SERVICES**	12	37	69	309	1191	1618
Totals	39	140	297	1919	10395	12790

*1 Garda Commissioner & 8 Assistant Commissioners are not included in the above table

**National Services figures include the Crime & Security Section and the National Support Services.

Appendix B
Garda Numbers as of 31.12.2015*

DIVISION	Chief Superintendent	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	Garda	Total
DMR SOUTH CENTRAL	1	4	11	79	532	627
DMR SOUTHERN	1	4	12	71	453	541
DMR NORTHERN	1	6	11	86	564	668
DMR WEST	1	4	14	80	589	688
DMR NORTH CENTRAL	1	4	12	85	488	590
DMR EAST	0	3	5	50	319	377
DMR OFFICE	0	2	4	7	64	77
DMR TRAFFIC DIVISION	1	2	2	15	101	121
WICKLOW	1	3	7	44	263	318
LOUTH	1	3	8	44	231	287
MEATH	1	3	2	41	230	277
WESTMEATH	1	5	5	36	198	245
LAOIS/OFFALY	1	3	5	40	229	278
KILDARE	1	3	5	43	260	312
WEXFORD	1	3	4	37	210	255
WATERFORD	1	3	6	39	233	282
KILKENNY/CARLOW	1	4	5	38	235	283
TIPPERARY	1	4	5	46	298	354
CORK CITY	1	7	11	98	534	651
CORK NORTH	1	3	5	47	242	298
CORK WEST	1	4	3	38	230	276
KERRY	1	3	3	43	250	300
LIMERICK	1	4	8	73	468	554
CLARE	1	2	5	38	246	292
GALWAY	1	6	10	78	465	560
ROSCOMMON/LONGFORD	1	4	3	48	236	292
MAYO	1	5	3	45	249	303
SLIGO/LEITRIM	1	3	5	46	238	293
DONEGAL	1	5	5	50	331	392
CAVAN/MONAGHAN	0	5	5	55	253	318
GARDA HQ & NATIONAL SERVICES**	15	46	58	295	1285	1699
Totals	42	160	247	1835	10524	12808

*1 Garda Commissioner, 2 Deputy Commissioners & 5 Assistant Commissioners are not included in the above table

**National Services figures include the Crime & Security Section and the National Support Services.