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 DR90

Láithreán Gréasain/Website: www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist:/Email:foi@garda.ie

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350



Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000071-2015

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and my correspondence to you of 19th October 2015 and to your submissions to this body received on 16th October 2015

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

'The number of members of An Garda Siochana who have taken maternity leave from January 1, 2008 to date, including number of officers per per year and per division (per vear).

have now made a final decision to part grant your request on 4th November 2015.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

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

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.

You have sought access to the records and accordingly, a copy of these records are now enclosed. This information is held centrally and a summary of returns is herewith attached outlining the numbers of members of An Garda Síochána who availed of maternity leave from 1st January 2012 to 31st October 2015.

The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions.

Under Section 15(1) wherein it states:

- 'A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where-
 - (a) The record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken'

Following a telephone call with my office, I understand you were advised that no records were held centrally in respect of members who availed of maternity leave prior to 2012. In order to provide these figures would result in a significant administration burden. In this regard, I am unable to provide statistics for members availing of maternity leave for years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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-000071-2015.

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: IE86BOF190001710026896

BIC: BOFIIE2D

Your must ensure that your FOI reference number is included in the payment details.

You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 20 working days from the date of this notification. A working day excludes the weekend and public holidays. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Siochána 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 wish to discuss this I can be contacted at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer

5th November 2015

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