

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

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-000089-2015 Request Refusal

Dear

I refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and my correspondence to you of 21st October 2015 and to your submissions to this body, dated and received on 20th October 2015.

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

'All correspondence between the Garda Commissioner Noirín O'Sullivan and the following individuals on the issue of staffing numbers

a) Assistant and Deputy Commissioners

This relates to correspondence between all Assistant and Deputy Commissioners in which the issue of staffing numbers is raised.

The timeframe for this request is 01/01/14-today's date.'

I, Superintendent have now made a final decision to **refuse your request**.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions

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.

Correspondence between the Garda Commissioner and the Deputy and Assistant Commissioners was queried from 1st January 2014 to October 2015. From conversations held with the staff of the Commissioner's Office, I am satisfied that all correspondence is held electronically. The search was

conducted across the electronic correspondence recorded in the Commissioner's Office to identify records which had key words in the title such as Garda Staffing. No records were located.

In addition to the above search the correspondence the following key words were used to search the system: HR, Human Resources and Staffing. No records were found.

As no records were located you may wish to reconsider your search criterion and provide a more specific search relevant to the information you seek. My office can assist you as necessary.

In accordance with the requirements of section 15(1) (a):

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.

I am satisfied that all reasonable steps have been taken to identify and locate the records requested in relation to your request. As the records concerned could not be located I must therefore refuse your request on this basis.

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-0000089-2015**.

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: IE86BOFI90001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

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 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,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

16th November 2015