**An Garda Síochána**

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INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR CANDIDATES

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE APPLYING



Open Competition for Appointment of

**Occupational Health Nurse**

**(CNM2/CNS level)**

 **Garda Headquarters, Dublin 8**

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**Extended Closing Date: Friday, 26th May, 2023**

**Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted**

An Garda Síochána is committed to a policy of equal opportunity.

This competition will be run in compliance with the Code of Practice for Appointment to Positions in the Civil Service and Public Service (CPSA) – available on [www.cpsa.ie](http://www.cpsa.ie)

CONTACT: An Garda Síochána, HR Directorate, Athlumney House, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62. Email: HRPD.StaffCompetitions@garda.ie



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| **SECTION 1: Overview of An Garda Síochána** |

An Garda Síochána is the national police and security service of Ireland with approximately 14,500 Garda Members, 3,400 Garda Staff and 500 Garda Reserves. The mission of An Garda Síochána is ‘*Keeping People Safe*’. An Garda Síochána is unique among policing services internationally as a unitary body responsible for the security of the State andthe provision of policing services. The two functions are united by an underpinning philosophy: the protection of the individual and the safety of communities. An Garda Síochána is in and of the community and community policing is the key and core to what the organisation does.

To allow An Garda Síochána to provide more responsive, efficient and effective policing services, fundamental changes are currently being made to the structure of the organisation. Through implementing a new Organisation Operating Model, An Garda Síochána will move from a geographic to a functional model of police service provision, organising our resources around the services we provide. There will also be a significant restructuring of both headquarters sections and national units. This restructuring will allow for more efficient working, enhanced service provision and an increased capacity to provide support to communities and victims of crime.

As well as investing in its people, the organisation will invest in ICT infrastructure and equipment.

The changing demands and expectations of citizens, the emerging security and policing challenges and the wide ranging reform programme combined with the introduction of new technology and systems create an urgent demand for continued enhancement of strategies and policies. These enhancements must ensure that our people, whether Garda Members (police officers), Garda Staff or Garda Reserves, have the skills, knowledge and expertise to provide the capacity that the organisation needs to respond to the ever changing demands that policing presents.

An Garda Síochána is a dynamic organisation in which all personnel can enjoy a rewarding and worthwhile career of service to the communities and people of Ireland.

**A Policing Service for the Future**

In December 2018, the Government published [*A Policing Service for the Future*](http://www.policereform.ie/) (APSFF), a four year Plan (2019-2022) to implement the [*Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland (CoFPI) Report*](http://policereform.ie/en/polref/pages/pb18000006)*.*

The CoFPI Report outlines the drivers for change and presents a clear vision for the future of An Garda Síochána. The consultation by the Commission led to the development of ten key principles for the future of policing in Ireland, and a comprehensive set of recommendations to meet current and future challenges.

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| Garda Crest (for presentations)**Occupational Health Nurse Role** |

The Garda Occupational Health Service (GOHS) which is part of the Garda Occupational Health and Wellbeing Directorate, have an exciting opportunity for an Occupational Health Nurse (OHN) to join our team and complement the existing occupational health clinical governance and leadership provision in An Garda Síochána. The existing GOHS clinical team consists of the Chief Medical Officer, Assistant Chief Medical Officer, Occupational Physicians and Occupational Health Nurses supported by an administrative team.

The role of the Occupational Health Nurse in GOHS is to assist the Chief Medical Officer in developing and providing an occupational health service for An Garda Síochána. They will work with the Chief Medical Officer and the existing team to support the employees of An Garda Síochána to maintain their health and wellbeing in order to carry out their duties safely and effectively as well as promote health, wellbeing, welfare and work ability of all Garda personnel. Key duties in this regard will include carrying out appropriate prescribed health screening and surveillance and other occupational health clinical activities and interventions aligned to competencies and scope of practice. The appointed nurses will have a significant knowledge of Occupational Health Nursing and will ensure services are provided in a person – centered manner and will have a pivotal role in service planning, coordinating and managing activity within the clinical setting of GOHS.

The successful candidates will report to the lead occupational health professional designated by the Chief Medical Officer.

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| **SECTION 2: Description of Work in Section** |

**Services provided by GOHS include:**

* Managing occupational health referrals;
* Case management of sick absence and medical fitness for work;
* Pre-employment medical fitness advice;
* Follow-up management of occupational blood and body fluid exposure (OBBFE) incidents;
* Management of medical file releases;
* Pre-course medical assessments for specialist and safety critical roles;
* Periodic health surveillance (medical) for Garda employees involved in safety critical roles/specialised duties;
* Statutory audiology health surveillance;
* Delivering health promotion and educational talks to members on matters relating to occupational health and wellbeing;
* Immunisation programmes and related blood tests/screening;
* Medical processing of early medical retirement/discharge applications;
* Providing medical advices in respect of Critical Illness Provisions, Discounting of sick leave, injury on duty, overseas deployment etc.;
* Medical assessment and advice for Compensation Act files;
* Providing advices to the Commissioner and An Garda Síochána on occupational health-related risk and issues.

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| **Key Requirements of the Role** |

**NOTE**: The functions and responsibilities assigned to this position are based on the current requirements of GOHS. These requirements may change in line with changes in the roles, objectives or business requirements of the Occupational Health and Wellbeing Directorate.

**The Principal Duties of the position will include:**

* Carrying out various health screening and health surveillance on members;
* Delivering vaccination programmes for members as prescribed and relevant to their work;
* Participating in case management and the follow-up of Garda personnel who are absent on medical grounds or reporting health issues at work;
* Giving health promotion and educational talks to personnel;
* Participate in developing and supporting health and wellbeing promotion programmes;
* Liaising with treating clinical professionals where appropriate in managing cases;
* Provision of relevant occupational health reports and updates where required;
* Assure compliance with regulatory requirements related to clinical activities and operations;
* Participate in clinical governance and establishment of best practice for GOHS clinical activities and processes;
* Participating in continuous professional development and actively contributing to GOHS educational activities;
* Carrying out any other occupational health activities or duties as required by the Chief Medical Officer aligned to competencies and scope of practice.

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| **SECTION 3: Person Specification** |

1. **Professional Qualifications, Experience, etc.**

**(a) Eligible applicants will be those who on the closing date for the competition:**

(i) Are registered in the General division of the Register of Nurses & Midwives maintained by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann) or entitled to be so registered.

**AND**

(ii) Have at least 3 years post registration experience of which at least 2 years’ experience are in the speciality or related area of Occupational Health.

**AND**

(iii) Candidates must demonstrate evidence of continuous professional development at an appropriate level.

**AND**

**(b)** Candidates must possess the clinical, managerial and administrative capacity to properly discharge the functions of the role.

**2. Health**

Candidates for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

**3. Character**

Candidates for and any person holding the office must be of good character.

***Please note that appointment to and continuation in posts that require statutory registration is dependent upon the post holder maintaining annual registration in the relevant division of the register maintained by Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann (Nursing Midwifery Board Ireland.***

**Desirable skills:**

* A recognised qualification in Occupational Health Nursing.

**Specific accountability**

The Occupational Health and Wellbeing Directorate reports to the Chief Administrative Office in An Garda Síochána and provides an Occupational Health (OH) service to approximately 18,000 personnel in An Garda Síochána.

Leadership:

* In conjunction with the Occupational Health Physicians, work as part of the OH team in offering a comprehensive OH service to meet demands.
* Lead changes in work practices, procedures, techniques or technologies having regard to developments in the field of OH and in accordance with best practice.
* Initiate, support and implement appropriate continuous quality improvement and accreditation initiatives across the service.
* Promote a culture that values diversity and respect in the workplace.
* Manage communication at unit level and facilitate team building.
* Develop a service based on quality assurance, risk reduction and audit.

Operational:

* Ensure service adherence to the Garda Occupational Health and Wellbeing Directorate policies, confidentiality and record keeping.
* Act as the point of contact with local management, committees and external bodies as required.
* Manage all resources efficiently and effectively within the agreed budget.
* Collect, interpret and present data on service activities as required.

Educational

* Keep abreast of new developments in Occupational Health and Wellbeing, nationally and internationally.
* Attend and participate in staff conferences, study days and in-service programmes, including staff induction programmes.

Information Technology & Data

* Utilise information technology in managing occupational health to enhance the service provided, i.e. Cohort (Occupational Health software) or any other software provided.
* Collect, interpret and present data and information on the Occupational Health activities and expenditure, as required.

Health & Safety

* All Garda personnel must comply with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005.
* Comply with relevant Health and Safety responsibilities as outlined in An Garda Síochána Polices, Protocols and Procedures relevant to your area.
* Take reasonable care to protect your own safety, health and welfare and that of any other person who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work.

Quality, Safety and Risk Management

* Support the delivery of the Quality, Safety and Risk Management Programme, including the appropriate identification and management of risks and incidents.
* Audit operational processes to the standards of best practice, in order to optimise use of resources and to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

Confidentiality

* You will be aware of the confidential nature of Occupational Health work and in particular, the right of patients to confidentiality. To this end, you will not discuss workings of the Occupational Health area or its patients or disclose any information of a confidential nature except as required to do so in the course of your work. No records, documents or property of the Occupational Health area may be removed from the premises without prior authorisation. Upon the termination of employment, all documents or other property of the Occupational Health area must be returned.
* Ensure compliance with the obligations required by the Data Protection Act 2018.

General:

* Keep up-to-date with relevant legislation, E.U. Directives, Health & Safety guidelines relevant to occupational health and wellbeing.
* Carry out any other OH duties within competency and scope of practice that may be assigned from time to time.
* Support the Chief Medical Officer on the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
* Have access to appropriate transport to fulfil the travelling requirements of the role, as the post may involve travel.

**The Principal Competencies associated with this position include:**

* Competent in delivery of the full range of occupational health services with strong administrative and IT skills.
* To be competent in the use of the various health screening and medical surveillance instruments employed within An Garda Síochána.
* To adhere to and contribute to the development and maintenance of occupational health nursing standards, protocols and guidance consistent with the highest standards of care applying to the work.
* To have a competency in Audiometry, Spirometry, Vision Screening, phlebotomy, VDU ergonomics.
* To have a familiarity with the various vaccination programmes and be in position to give up to date advice to members who may have suffered occupational injuries.
* To have a competency in dealing with vaccination-related emergencies.
* To operate within the scope of practice – seek advice and assistance from the Chief Medical Officer in any cases or issues that prove to be beyond the scope of their professional competence in line with the principles of best practice and clinical governance.

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| **Candidates should note that admission to the competition does not imply that they meet the eligibility criteria. Therefore, candidates should satisfy themselves that they meet the eligibility criteria for this competition.** |

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| **SECTION 4: Eligibility to Compete** |

**Eligibility to compete and certain restrictions on eligibility**

**Citizenship Requirements**

Eligible candidates must be:

1. A citizen of the European Economic Area (EEA). The EEA consists of the Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; or
2. A citizen of the United Kingdom (UK); or
3. A citizen of Switzerland pursuant to the agreement between the EU and Switzerland on the free movement of persons; or
4. A non-EEA citizen who is a spouse or child of an EEA or UK or Swiss citizen and has a stamp 4 visa; or
5. A person awarded international protection under the International Protection Act 2015 or any family member entitled to remain in the State as a result of family reunification and has a stamp 4 visa; or
6. A non-EEA citizen who is a parent of a dependent child who is a citizen of, and resident in, an EEA member state or the UK or Switzerland and has a stamp 4 visa.

**To qualify candidates must be eligible by the date of any job offer.**

**Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants**

The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform letter dated 28th June 2012 to Personnel Officers introduced, with effect from 1st June 2012, a Collective Agreement which had been reached between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Public Services Committee of the ICTU in relation to ex-gratia Redundancy Payments to Public Servants. It is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the agreement will not be eligible for re-employment in the Public Service by any Public Service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. People who availed of this scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility)

**Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER):**

It is a condition of the Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) as set out in Department of Finance Circular 12/09 that retirees, under that Scheme, are not eligible to apply for another position in the same employment or the same sector. Therefore, such retirees may not apply for this position.

**Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010):**

The Department of Health Circular 7/2010 dated 1 November 2010 introduced a Targeted Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) Scheme and Voluntary Redundancy Schemes (VRS). It is a condition of the VER scheme that persons availing of the scheme will not be eligible for re-employment in the public health sector or in the wider Public Service or in a body wholly or mainly funded from public moneys. The same prohibition on re-employment applies under the VRS, except that the prohibition is for a period of 7 years. People who availed of the VER scheme are not eligible to compete in this competition. People who availed of the VRS scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility).

**Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013)**

The Department of Environment, Community & Local Government Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013 introduced a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme for Local Authorities. In accordance with the terms of the Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants dated 28 June 2012 as detailed above, it is a specific condition of that VER Scheme that persons will not be eligible for re-employment in any Public Service body [as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011 and the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012] for a period of 2 years from their date of departure under this Scheme. These conditions also apply in the case of engagement/employment on a contract for service basis (either as a contractor or as an employee of a contractor).

**Declaration:**

Applicants will be required to declare whether they have previously availed of a Public Service scheme of incentivised early retirement. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Public Service employment and/or where they have received a payment-in-lieu in respect of service in any Public Service employment.

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| **SECTION 5: Principal Conditions of Service** |

**General**

The appointment is to a permanent position in the Civil Service and is subject to the Civil Service Regulations Acts 1956 to 2005, the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Act 2004 and any other Act for the time being in force relating to the Civil Service.

**Salary**

The post is offered at Occupational Health Nurse level with effect from 1st March 2023.

Personal Pension Contribution

The PPC (Personal Pension Contribution) salary scale (annually) for this position, with effect from 1st March 2023, is as follows:

€55,108.00, €56,026.00, €56,795.00, €58,053.00, 59,450.00, €60,812.00, €62,181.00,

€63,721.00, €65,149.00

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**Personal Pension Contribution**

The PPC pay rate applies when the individual is required to pay a Personal Pension Contribution (otherwise known as a main scheme contribution) in accordance with the rules of their main/personal superannuation scheme. This is different to a contribution in respect of membership of a Spouses’ and Children’s scheme, or the Additional Superannuation Contributions (ASC).

A different rate will apply where the appointee is not required to make a Personal Pension Contribution.

Candidates should note that entry will be at the minimum of the scale and will not be subject to negotiation and the rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy. Increments may be awarded annually subject to satisfactory performance.

Different terms and conditions may apply if you are a currently serving civil or public servant.

Payment will be made fortnightly in arrears by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) into a bank account of an officer’s choice. (Existing Civil Servants who were exempt from the EFT scheme prior to their new appointment will be given the choice to remain outside of the scheme.) Payment cannot be made until a bank account number and bank sort code has been supplied to the Garda Civilian Human Resources Directorate. Statutory deductions from salary will be made as appropriate by An Garda Síochána.

An officer will agree that any overpayment of salary or of travel and subsistence may be deducted from future salary payments due to an officer in accordance with the Payment of Wages Act 1991. In accordance with that Act, An Garda Síochána will advise the officer in writing of the amount and details of such overpayment and give at least one week’s notice of the deduction to take place and will deduct the overpayment, at an amount that is fair and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances, within six months of such notice in accordance with the Act.

**Location**

The position will be based in Garda Headquarters, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8.

**Tenure and Probation**

The appointment is to a permanent position on a probationary contract in the Civil Service.

The probationary contract will be for a period of one year from the date specified on the contract. Notwithstanding this paragraph and the paragraph immediately following below, this will not preclude an extension of the probationary contract in appropriate circumstances.

During the period of your probationary contract, your performance will be subject to review by your supervisor(s) to determine whether you:

1. Have performed in a satisfactory manner,
2. Have been satisfactory in general conduct, and
3. Are suitable from the point of view of health with particular regard to sick leave.

Prior to the completion of the probationary contract a decision will be made as to whether or not you will be retained pursuant to Section 5A(2) Civil Service Regulation Acts 1956 – 2005. This decision will be based on your performance assessed against the criteria set out in (i) to (iii) above. The detail of the probationary process will be explained to you and you will be given a copy of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform’s guidelines on probation.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraphs in this section, the probationary contract may be terminated at any time prior to the expiry of the term of the contract by either side in accordance with the Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts, 1973 to 2005.

In certain circumstances your contract may be extended and your probation period suspended. The extension must be agreed by both parties.

* The probationary period stands suspended when an employee is absent due to Maternity or Adoptive Leave
* In relation to an employee absent on Parental Leave or Carers Leave, the employee may require probation to be suspended if the absence is not considered to be consistent with the continuation of the probation
* Probation may be suspended in cases such as absence due to a non-recurring illness

The employee may, in these circumstances, make an application to the employer for an extension to the contract period.

All appointees will serve a one-year probationary period.  If an appointee who fails to satisfy the conditions of probation has been a serving civil servant immediately prior to their appointment from this competition, the issue of reversion will normally arise.  In the event of reversion, an officer will return to a vacancy in their former grade in their former Department.

**Hours of attendance**

Hours of attendance will be fixed from time to time but will amount to on average not less than 41 hours 15 minutes gross including lunch breaks, or 35 hours net per week, Monday to Friday. Applications will be considered from candidates seeking to work on a part-time basis; salary and other benefits would be applied on a pro rata basis.

The successful candidate may be required to work such additional hours from time to time as deemed reasonable and necessary for the proper performance of his/her duties subject to the limits set down in the working time regulations.

**Annual Leave**

Your annual leave allowance will be 25 days rising to 29 days after 5 years’ service and to 30 days after 10 years’ working days a year. This allowance, which is subject to the usual conditions regarding the granting of annual leave, is on the basis of a five-day week and is exclusive of the usual public holidays.

**Sick Leave**

Pay during properly certified sick absence, provided there is no evidence of permanent disability for service, will apply on a pro-rata basis, in accordance with the provisions of the sick leave circulars.

Officers who will be paying Class A rate of PRSI will be required to sign a mandate authorising the Department of Social Protection to pay any benefits due under the Social Welfare Acts directly to the employing Department or Organisation. Payment during illness will be subject to the officer making the necessary claims for social insurance benefit to the Department of Social Protection within the required time limits.

**Superannuation and Retirement**

The successful candidate will be offered the appropriate superannuation terms and conditions as prevailing in the Civil Service at the time of being offered an appointment. In general, an appointee who has never worked in the Public Service will be offered appointment based on membership of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme (“Single Scheme”). Full details of the Scheme are at [www.singlepensionscheme.gov.ie](http://www.singlepensionscheme.gov.ie).

Where the appointee has worked in a pensionable (non-Single Scheme terms) public service job in the 26 weeks prior to appointment or is currently on a career break or special leave with/without pay different terms may apply. The pension entitlement of such appointees will be established in the context of their public service employment history.

Key provisions attaching to membership of the Single Scheme are as follows:

* Pensionable Age: The minimum age at which pension is payable is the same as the age of eligibility for the State Pension, currently 66.
* Retirement Age: Scheme members must retire on reaching the age of 70.
* Career average earnings are used to calculate benefits (a pension and lump sum amount accrue each year and are up-rated each year by reference to CPI).
* Post retirement pension increases are linked to CPI

**Pension Abatement**

If the appointee has previously been employed in the Civil or Public Service and is in receipt of a pension from the Civil or Public Service or where a Civil/Public Service pension comes into payment during his/her re-employment that pension **will be subject** to abatement in accordance with Section 52 of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. **Please note: In applying for this position you are acknowledging that you understand that the abatement provisions, where relevant, will apply. It is not envisaged that the employing Department/Office will support an application for an abatement waiver in respect of appointments to this position.**

However, if the appointee was previously employed in the Civil or Public Service and awarded a pension under voluntary early retirement arrangements (other than the Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement (ISER), the Department of Health Circular 7/2010 VER/VRS or the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government Circular letter LG(P) 06/2013, any of which renders a person ineligible for the competition) the entitlement to that pension will cease with effect from the date of reappointment. Special arrangements may, however be made for the reckoning of previous service given by the appointee for the purpose of any future superannuation award for which the appointee may be eligible.

**Department of Education and Skills Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers Circular 102/2007**

The Department of Education and Skills introduced an Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers. It is a condition of the Early Retirement Scheme that with the exception of the situations set out in paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 of the relevant circular documentation, and with those exceptions only, if a teacher accepts early retirement under Strands 1, 2 or 3 of this scheme and is subsequently employed in any capacity in any area of the public sector, payment of pension to that person under the scheme will immediately cease. Pension payments will, however, be resumed on the ceasing of such employment or on the person's 60th birthday, whichever is the later, but on resumption, the pension will be based on the person's actual reckonable service as a teacher (i.e. the added years previously granted will not be taken into account in the calculation of the pension payment).

**Ill-Health-Retirement**

Please note any person who previously retired on ill health grounds under the terms of a superannuation scheme are required to declare, at the initial application phase, that they are in receipt of such a pension to the organisation administering the recruitment competition.

Applicants will be required to attend the CMO’s office to assess their ability to provide regular and effective service taking account of the condition, which qualified them for IHR.

*Appointment post Ill-health retirement from Civil Service:*

If successful in their application through the competition, the applicant should to be aware of the following:

* If deemed fit to provide regular and effective service and assigned to a post, their civil service ill-health pension ceases.
* If the applicant subsequently fails to complete probation or decides to leave their assigned post, there can be no reversion to the civil service IHR status, nor reinstatement of the civil service IHR pension, that existed prior to the application nor is there an entitlement to it.
* The applicant will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme (SPSPS) upon appointment if they have had a break in pensionable public/civil service of more than 26 weeks.

*Appointment post Ill-health retirement from public service:*

* Where an individual has retired from a public service body his/her ill-health pension from that employment may be subject to review in accordance with the rules of ill-health retirement under that scheme.
* If an applicant is successful, on appointment the applicant will be required to declare whether they are in receipt of a public service pension (ill-health or otherwise) and their public service pension may be subject to abatement.
* The applicant will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme (SPSPS) upon appointment if they have had a break in pensionable public/civil service of more than 26 weeks.
* Please note more detailed information in relation to pension implications for those in receipt of a civil or public service ill-health pension is available via this link or upon request to PAS.

**Pension Accrual**

A 40-year limit on total service that can be counted towards pension where a person has been a member of more than one pre-existing public service pension scheme (i.e. non-Single Scheme) as per the 2012 Act shall apply. This 40-year limit is provided for in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012. This may have implications for any appointee who has acquired pension rights in a previous public service employment.

**Additional Superannuation Contribution**

This appointment is subject to the additional superannuation contribution in accordance with the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act, 2017. Note; ASC deductions are in addition to any pension contributions (main scheme and spouses’ and children’s contributions) required under the rules of your pension scheme.

For further information in relation to the Single Public Service Pension Scheme please see the following website: [www.singlepensionscheme.gov.ie](http://www.singlepensionscheme.gov.ie)

**Secrecy, Confidentiality and Standards of Behaviour: Official Secrecy and Integrity**

During the term of the probationary contract, an officer will be subject to the Provisions of the Official Secrets Act, 1963, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2014. The officer will agree not to disclose to unauthorised third parties any confidential information either during or subsequent to the period of employment.

**Civil Service Code of Standards and Behaviour**

The appointee will be subject to the Civil Service Code of Standards and Behaviour.

**Ethics in Public Office Acts**

[**The Code of Ethics**](file:///T%3A/Staffing%20Unit/Files/Recruitment/2021%20Recruitment/Recruitment%20Section%202021/7%20PO/PO%20GISC/TandC%27s%20for%20DPER%20Approval%20PO%20GISC%20amended.docx#_code_1) sets out nine standards of conduct and practice for everyone in An Garda Síochána, each with a number of commitments. It has been developed by the Policing Authority, in accordance with the Garda Síochána Act 2005, as amended. The Code has regard to the Policing Principles set out in that Act.

Candidates should note that, should they be deemed successful in the competition, they will be required to sign a declaration to affirm their commitment to the Code of Ethics and will declare that they have read and understand the Code of Ethics of An Garda Síochána, and will adhere to the standards set out therein.

**Prior approval of publications**

An appointed staff member will agree not to publish material related to his or her official duties without prior approval by the appropriate authorised officer.

**Political Activity**

During the term of employment, the officer will be subject to the rules governing public servants and politics.

**Please note;**

As an Employer of Choice the Civil Service has many flexible and family friendly working policies including some opportunities for remote working. Please note, successful candidates may request flexible working opportunities, however, this is at the discretion of the employer and decided in line with the business needs of the organisation, and on a case by case basis.

Different terms and conditions may apply if you are a currently serving civil or public servant.

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| **IMPORTANT NOTICE****The above represents the principal conditions of service and is not intended to be the comprehensive list of all terms and conditions of employment which will be set out in the employment contract to be agreed with the successful candidate(s).** |

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| **SECTION 6: Application and Selection Process** |

**How to Apply**

Application forms may be downloaded from: [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)

All sections of the application form must be fully completed in Word document format and submitted by way of email to HRPD.StaffCompetitions@garda.ie with subject heading: **Occupational Health Nurse**

**Closing Date**

The closing date for receipt of applications is: **17:00 on Friday 26h May, 2023**

***Applications will not be accepted after the closing date.***

It is suggested that you apply well in advance of the closing date in case you experience any difficulties. Support will be available during office hours via email at **HRPD.StaffCompetitions@garda.ie**until the closing date.

**Candidates who wish to avail of Reasonable Accommodation**

Candidates who wish to avail of reasonable accommodations are asked to submit a psychologists/medical report. The purpose of the report is to act as a basis for determining reasonable accommodations where appropriate. These reports must be forwarded to Assistant Principal Officer Ms. Patricia Murray, HR Directorate, Athlumney House, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62.

**Selection Process methods**

The methods used to select the successful candidates for this post may include some or all of the following:

* Shortlisting of candidates on the basis of the information contained in their application;
* A competency based interview which may also include a presentation and/or an additional assessment exercise(s);
* Any other tests or exercises that may be deemed appropriate.

Posts will be offered in sequence to those candidates who finish highest in the overall order of merit drawn up following the interviews, i.e. the highest ranking candidates will, in turn, be offered a post.

**Non-Refund of expenses**

Candidates should note that the provisions of Circular 6/89, Removal Expenses, will not apply to any offers of appointments arising from this competition. Additionally, any expenses incurred by candidates whilst undertaking or attending any elements of the selection process will not be refunded.

**Communication**

Candidates should note that all communications relating to this competition, including the provision of results, will issue by way of email only. Candidates should ensure that a valid email address and contact details are provided on the application form and should check that email address on a regular basis.

**Shortlisting**

The number of applications received for a position generally exceeds that required to fill existing and future vacancies for the position. While a candidate may meet the eligibility requirements of the competition, if the numbers applying for the position are such that it would not be practical to interview everyone, An Garda Síochána may decide that a smaller number will be called to the next stage of the selection process.

In this respect, An Garda Síochána provide for the employment of a shortlisting process to select a group who appear to be the most suitable for the position. This is not to suggest that other candidates are necessarily unsuitable or incapable of undertaking the job, rather that there are some candidates who, appear to be better qualified and/or have more relevant experience.

The shortlisting criteria may include both the essential and desirable criteria specified for the position. It is, therefore, in your own interest to provide a detailed and accurate account of your qualifications/experience in your application.

**Reschedule Requests**

Reschedule requests will only be considered under exceptional circumstances as deemed acceptable by An Garda Síochána (e.g. Bereavement/Illness). Please note that An Garda Síochána may request supporting
documentation as evidence.

**Vetting & Security Clearance**

You will be required to complete a stringent Garda Síochána vetting process should you come under consideration for appointment. It is a very in-depth process and can take up to 12 weeks to complete. You **cannot** be appointed without clearing this Vetting process.

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| **SECTION 7: Important Candidate Information** |

**General Information**

An Garda Síochána will not be responsible for refunding any expenses incurred by candidates.

Posts will be offered in sequence to those candidates who finish highest in the overall order of merit drawn up following the interviews, i.e. the highest ranking candidates will, in turn, be offered a post.

The admission of a person to a competition, or invitation to attend interview, or a successful result letter, is not to be taken as implying that An Garda Síochána is satisfied that such a person fulfils the requirements.

Prior to recommending any candidate for appointment to this position An Garda Síochána will make all such enquiries that are deemed necessary e.g. health, character, employer references, security checks including vetting, or any other enquiries as are deemed necessary to determine the suitability of that candidate. Until all stages of the recruitment process have been fully completed a final determination cannot be made nor can it be deemed or inferred that such a determination has been made.

**Specific candidate criteria**

In addition to fulfilling the eligibility criteria set out, candidates must:

* Have the knowledge and ability to discharge the duties of the post concerned;
* Be suitable on the grounds of health and character;
* Be suitable in all other relevant respects for appointment to the post concerned.

If successful, they will not be appointed to the post unless they:

* Agree to undertake the duties attached to the post and accept the conditions under which the duties are, or may be required to be, performed;
* Are fully competent and available to undertake, and fully capable of undertaking, the duties attached to the position.

**Appointments from panels**

A panel will be established from which an appointment will be made and from which future vacancies may be filled. Qualification and placement on a panel is **not** a guarantee of appointment to a position.

Please note that once an offer of appointment has been accepted a candidate will be removed from the panel and no further offers of appointment will be made. Should similar type vacancies arise elsewhere in the Civil Service candidates may be drawn from this competition.

The panel will expire two years from its establishment, unless otherwise extended, or when it has been exhausted, whichever is sooner. Candidates not promoted at the expiry of the panel will have no claim to promotion thereafter because of having been on the panel.

**References**

Should you come under consideration for a position you will be required to provide the names of referees. The referees do not have to include your present employer. If you have no previous work experience a reference from your school/university may suffice. The references should provide relatively recent information on your performance and behaviour in a work context. Please note, should you be successful at interview and come under consideration for a position, we will require a reference from your current employer prior to assignment. A statement of employment is **not** sufficient and will not be accepted as an employer reference. Your current employer will only be contacted with your consent.

**Deeming of candidature to be withdrawn**

Candidates who do not attend for interview when and where required or who do not, when requested, furnish such evidence as required in regard to any matter relevant to their candidature, will have no further claim to consideration.

**Declining an offer of appointment**

Should the person recommended for appointment decline, or having accepted it, relinquish it, An Garda Síochána HR may at its discretion, offer the position to the next candidate on the panel.

**Confidentiality**

Candidates can expect that all enquiries, applications and all aspects of the proceedings are treated as strictly confidential subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

Certain items of information, not specific to any individual, are extracted from computer records for general statistical purposes.

**Use of Recording Equipment**

An Garda Síochána does not allow the unsanctioned use of any type of recording equipment on its premises. This applies to any form of sound recording and any type of still picture or video recording, whether including sound recording or not, and covers any type of device used for these purposes. Any person wishing to use such equipment for any of these purposes must seek written permission in advance. This policy is in place to protect the privacy of staff and customers and the integrity of our assessment material and assessment processes. Unsanctioned use of recording equipment by any person is a breach of this policy. Any candidate involved in such a breach could be disqualified from the competition and could be subject to prosecution under section 55 of the Public Service Management (Recruitment & Appointments) Act, 2004.

**Code of Practice**

The Commission for Public Service Appointments (CPSA) Code of Practice Appointment to Positions in the Civil Service and Public Service applies to this competition and is available to view at [www.cpsa.ie](http://www.cpsa.ie). The CPSA Code of Practice outlines the procedures whereby a candidate may seek a review regarding a decision taken in relation to his/her application or in relation to allegations of a breach of the Code of Practice. Requests for a CPSA review should be submitted in writing to hrpd.cpsa@garda.ie clearly setting out the grounds for review and specifying the relevant Section of the Code.

In accordance with the principles of the above Code of Practice, An Garda Síochána is committed to providing clear, specific and meaningful feedback to candidates. In this regard written feedback will be provided to candidates. This will consist of the candidate marks from the competition and comments from the interview board on the candidate’s performance, as appropriate.

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018**

Personal data provided by candidates shall only be processed for the purposes specified in this document, and within a clearly defined lawful basis under the (EU) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) ((EU)2016/679) and the Data Protection Acts 1988/2018.

All necessary measures will be put in place to ensure personal data is kept safe and secure, and only relevant personal data will be processed. Personal data will be retained for no longer than is necessary to achieve the purpose for which it has been obtained.

**Canvassing**

Candidates should note that it is prohibited to do the following, directly or indirectly;

* Canvass in relation to the process;
* Personate a candidate at any stage of the process;
* Influence a decision of any person in relation to the process; or
* Interfere with or compromise the process in any way.

**Contravention of the Code of Practice**

Any person who contravenes the above provisions or who assists another person in contravening the above provisions is guilty of an offence. A person who is found guilty of an offence is liable to a fine/or imprisonment.

In addition, if a person found guilty of an offence was, or is a candidate at a recruitment process, they will be disqualified as a candidate and excluded from the process. Where a candidate has been appointed to a post following the recruitment process, they will be removed from that post.