

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Fáisnéise,
An Garda Síochána, Teach áth Luimnigh,
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail,
Baile Sheáin, An Uaimh,
Contae na Mí.
C15 ND62



Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown, Navan,
Co Meath.
C15 ND62

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350



Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000019-2023 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 18th January, 2023 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:

Under the FOI act 2014, I am seeking the following:

The number of applicants that were rejected by An Garda Síochána for being overweight or above personal weight requirements between the years of 2012 and 2023

The number of applicants that were rejected by An Garda Síochána for being unfit or below fitness requirements between the years of 2012 and 2023

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on 10th February, 2023. The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt your request was forwarded to the relevant Sections of An Garda Síochána where searches for records were undertaken. I can advise that Garda recruits are required to complete a Physical Competency Test (PCT) in order to be accepted as a Garda trainee. Applicants are

1

not specifically rejected for being overweight. As such the records sought in part one of your request do not exist. Therefore, I must refuse your request for “*The number of applicants that were rejected by An Garda Síochána for being overweight or above personal weight requirements between the years of 2012 and 2023*” in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act. Section 15(1)(a) states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)(a) the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken

In respect of part two of your request, the table below details the number of applicants failing the PCT Test

Year	No of PCT Failed
2013	253
2014	0
2015	0
2016	641
2017	228
2018	372
2019	349
2020	0
2021	0
2022	80
2023	0

I am advised that there are no records available in respect of 2012 and I am therefore refusing that particular aspect of part two of your request in accordance with the above mentioned Section 15(1)(a).

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-000019-2023**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 ND62

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: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account
Account Number: 30000302
Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302
BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000019-2023) 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

 **FEBRUARY, 2023.**