

# 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 DR90



Freedom of Information Office,  
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,  
IDA Business Park,  
Johnstown, Navan,  
Co Meath.  
C15 DR90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Bí linn/Join us  

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

[www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000144-2019 Request Granted

**Dear**

I refer to your request, dated the 05<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 and received on 08<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 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:

*I wish to apply under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for the following information*

- 1/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2019 (to date)*
- 2/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2018*
- 3/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2017*
- 4/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2016*
- 5/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2015*
- 6/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2014*
- 7/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2013*
- 8/ the number of gardaí suspended in 2012*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on the 01st May, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision to deny access**

The Internal Affairs Section of An Garda Síochána were contacted to identify the information requested in your FOI Request. It should be noted that the information requested was not readily available in the format as sought by you, however following a manual examination of files, data was identified which has been utilised to assist in response to this request.

The Discipline Section of Internal Affairs is responsible for the oversight of all investigations undertaken by An Garda Síochána under the provisions of the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007/2011 (Statutory Instrument Nos. 214 of 2007 ([www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2007/si/214/made/en/print](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2007/si/214/made/en/print)) and 620 of 2011 ([www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2011/si/620/made/en/print](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2011/si/620/made/en/print)), which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011. The purpose of these Regulations is to provide a code of conduct for all members of An Garda Síochána, which must be strictly adhered to. Any suspected breaches may be subject of investigation by Officers appointed pursuant to the Regulations. The penalties provided under the Regulations include dismissal; requirement to retire or resign as an alternative to dismissal, reduction in rank; reduction in pay; reprimand; warning, caution and advice.

Members of An Garda Síochána are subject to the Garda Síochána (Discipline) Regulations 2007 as amended. As per the Regulations, minor disciplinary matters are locally addressed by way of Regulation 10. Such records are retained locally and are not held centrally. Matters of a more serious nature are progressed centrally through the Discipline Section.

Having reviewed the information provided to this office I have decided to grant your request for *'the number of Gardaí suspended from duty from 2012 to 2019 to date.*

Please see Table below which identifies the records held in the Internal Affairs Section:

**Table: - Number of Members Suspended Per Year**

Year	Number of Gardaí Suspended
2012	11
2013	24
2014	16
2015	12
2016	8
2017	9
2018	21
2019 (to 12.04.19)	6



Please note that the above figures include both the number of members whose suspension commenced in the calendar year indicated above and/or remained on suspension from the previous calendar year.

It should be further noted that the figures outlined above are those on long term suspensions, the figures do not include those members who have been suspended for short term periods, e.g. if a member is suspended for a day or part of while they may be the subject of court proceedings. It should be further noted that the numbers of members on suspension in An Garda Síochána vary, sometimes on a day to day basis as investigations are progressed or finalised.

## **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-000144-2019**.

**Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000144-2019 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](http://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,

Maria Brodigan ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
MARIA BRODIGAN  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

1<sup>st</sup> MAY, 2019.