

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

Ríomh-phoist/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000500-2019 Request Part Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 17th December, 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:

- 1/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Band in tabular form, the number of Gardaí joined the band in each campaign*
- 2/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Band as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form*
- 3/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Water Unit, the number of Gardaí joined the Water Unit in each recruitment campaign*
- 4/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Water Unit as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form*
- 5/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Air Support Unit, the number of Gardaí joined the GASU in each recruitment campaign*
- 6/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Air Support Unit as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on 15th January, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the relevant sections of An Garda Síochána and a number of records have been identified.

Parts 2, 4 & 6 of your request is seeking:

2/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Band as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form

4/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Water Unit as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form

6/ The number of vacancies by rank in the Garda Air Support Unit as of 16 December 2019 in tabular form.

I can now advise you that as of the 16th December, 2019, there are currently 13 vacancies for instrumentalists in the Garda Band which are at Garda Rank. There is also a further 4 vacancies for promotion to Sergeant Rank, from within the existing band members. In respect of the Garda Water Unit, there are currently no vacancies and the Garda Air Support Unit currently has 2 vacancies at Sergeant rank.

The sections of the Act, which deny access to information, are known as exemptions. I wish to advise you that I am refusing parts 1,3, & 5 of your request wherein you are seeking:

1/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Band in tabular form, the number of Gardaí joined the band in each campaign

3/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Water Unit, the number of Gardaí joined the Water Unit in each recruitment campaign

5/ The number of recruitment campaign held in 2018 and to-date in 2019 for Garda members to join the Garda Air Support Unit, the number of Gardaí joined the GASU in each recruitment campaign

Section 15(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 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

I have been advised that there were no recruitment campaigns held for the Garda Band, the Garda Water Unit and the Garda Air Support Unit for the years 2018 & 2019 and therefore no records are available for release in this regard.

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-000500-2019**.

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-000500-2019 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

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,



ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MARIA BRODIGAN

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

15th JANUARY, 2019