

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

Mr. Darren Hassett

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000300-2017 Request Part Granted

Dear Mr. Hassett,

I refer to your request, dated and received on 3rd July 2017, 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.

"I'm requesting information on how many new Garda recruits have been assigned to Kilkenny since the moratorium on recruitment lifted [January 1, 2014] to date this year, including the graduation of probationary gardai on July 6, 2017 and how many graduated on that date and were assigned to Kilkenny from that grouping.

Under the Act, I'm seeking information on how many retirements there were in Kilkenny between the same dates?

As well as the exact number of gardai, and a breakdown of their ranks, in Kilkenny presently"

I have now made a decision to part grant your request on 19th July, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

On receipt of your email, your request was forwarded to the Human Resource Management Section of An Garda Síochána where a search was conducted in respect of same.

1

As previously advised in your similar requests (**FOI-000243-2016**, **FOI-000055-2017** and **FOI-000208-2017**), the Garda Divisions do not necessarily align the county borders and some Garda Divisions comprise of more than one county. In accordance with this geographical layout, the information being provided is for the Kilkenny/Carlow Division and not specifically for Kilkenny.

I advise that I am refusing Part 1 and Part 2 of your request pursuant to section 15(1)(i)(i) which states:

15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where –

- (i). the request relates to records already released, either to the same or a previous requester where –*
- (i) the records are available to the requestor concerned*

I advise that this information was the subject of a previous Freedom of Information request made by you on the 17th February 2017 (**FOI-000055-2017**). An Garda Síochána publishes all decisions made on requests for non-personal information, including the full decision letter and relevant records, on its website. The relevant decision and released records are available at the following link for your ease of reference:

<http://www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=20355&Lang=1>

However, I am in a position to provide you with additional information in relation to Part 1 and Part 2 of your request. Since the issue of **FOI-000055-2017** sixteen (16) probationer Gardaí have been allocated to the Kilkenny/Carlow Division. This includes ten (10) probationer Gardaí attested on the 6th July 2017 who will transfer to the Kilkenny/Carlow Division on the 24th July 2017. Since the issue of **FOI-000055-2017** there has been one (1) additional retirement, of Sergeant rank, in the Kilkenny/Carlow Division (as of 17th July 2017).

Garda resources are continually monitored and reviewed by the Garda Commissioner to ensure the optimum use is made of Garda resources and the best possible service is provided to the general public by An Garda Síochána. The allocation and transfer of Gardaí is determined by a number of factors, including crime workload, minimum establishment, population, area, policing arrangements, operational strategies and transfers applications, including welfare issues. The commitment to Garda recruitment allows the Commissioner to allocate new Garda members to areas requiring further resourcing as they become available. Once the probationer Gardaí are allocated, this allows a small number of Gardaí to transfer out. The consequential transfers are granted in respect of the areas who have not received probationers. It is the responsibility of the Divisional Officer to allocate personnel within his/her Division.

In relation to Part 3 of your request please see table below this is the current strengths of members of An Garda Síochána in the Kilkenny/ Carlow Division as of the 30th June 2017. The figures include members attached to the office of the Assistant Commissioner South Eastern Region and Regional Resources for the South Eastern Region which are based in Kilkenny.

| Division | Gda. | Sgt. | Insp. | Supt. | C/Supt | A/Comm. | Total |
|---------------------|------|------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| Kilkenny/ Carlow | 248 | 49 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 311 |

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 **F01-000300-2017**.

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: IE86B0F190001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure your FOI reference number F01-000300-2017 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 wish to discuss the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER
21st July 2017