

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

Kelly O'Brien.
Evening Echo,

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000015-2017 Refused

Dear Ms. O'Brien,

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 17th January 2017, 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. I am requesting records outlining the sums of compensation paid to members of the force for injuries sustained while on duty throughout 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, broken down by Garda District.*
- 2. I am also requesting records outlining how many members of the force received injuries while on public duty during the aforementioned years, again broken down by garda district, and gender if possible, and what kind of injuries were received.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to refuse your request on the 13th February 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

I wish to inform you that on the 23rd January 2017 the first part of your request was transferred to the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) as the records relating to compensation claims for both malicious and accidental injuries are held at that location.

Part 1 of this request was sent to the FOI Officer, NTMA Treasury Building, Grand Canal Street, Dublin 2. As a result I am refusing this part of your request due to the fact that the records you are requesting are not held by An Garda Síochána. Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act is applied.

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests.

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

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

With regard to Part 2 of this request I must refuse the information at the level of District due to the personal and sensitive nature of the information being requested. The level of details requested at District level will undoubtedly identify certain individuals and the injuries they have received.

I am conscious that a release of information under the FOI Act is a release to the world at large and that once released there is no control over who may have access to such information. I am therefore cognisant of the individual's right to personal information being kept confidential by an employer such as An Garda Síochána. Section 2 provides a definition of what is considered personal information.

2. (1) In this Act—

“personal information” means information about an identifiable individual that, either—

(a) would, in the ordinary course of events, be known only to the individual or members of the family, or friends, of the individual, or

(b) is held by an FOI body on the understanding that it would be treated by that body as confidential,

and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, includes—

(i) information relating to the educational, medical, psychiatric or psychological history of the individual,

(iii) information relating to the employment or employment history of the individual,

Section 37 – Personal Information.

I am refusing to provide the records by District as it is my opinion that the information contained therein comes within the ambit of the definition of *Personal Information* as per section 2 of the FOI Act.

This decision is made in accordance with section 37(1) of the FOI Act.

Section 37 of the FOI Act states;

“(1) Subject to this section, a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if, in the opinion of the head, access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information (including personal information relating to a deceased individual).”

Section 37(2) of the FOI Act sets out certain circumstances in which section 37(1) does not apply. I am satisfied that none of those circumstances arise in this case.

As per section 37 of the FOI Act I have considered the public interest issues which arise in this case and have taken account of the following factors in favour of release:

- Ensuring openness and transparency of organisational functions to the greatest possible extent,
- The public interest in members of the public exercising their rights under the FOI Act,
- That there is more than just a transitory interest by the public in this information,
- The right to privacy is outweighed by the needs of the public.

In considering the public interest factors which favour withholding the records I have taken account of the following:

- Allowing a public body to hold personal information without undue access by members of the public,
- The public interest is not best served by releasing these records,
- That the Organisation can conduct its business in a confidential manner,
- That there is a reasonable and implied expectation that sensitive personal information will remain confidential,
- That there is no overriding public interest that outweighs the individual’s right to privacy.

A public interest test was carried out when considering the release of the personal information but having balanced the factors both for and against the release, I decided that the public interest in preserving the personal information and the reasonable expectation that information can be maintained in a confidential manner by An Garda Síochána outweighs the public interest which would be served were the records released to you.

However I have provided the information you sought at the level of Division for years 2012 to 2016 inclusive. The information shown in the attached tables for each year shows the occupational injuries recorded under a number of different headings. The information provided refers to the 29 Operational Garda Divisions.

An Garda Síochána is very mindful to the significant occupational demands placed on its members, the exposure to injuries and very stressful and traumatic situations. Critical support is provided by the Chief Medical Officer, the Employee Assistance Service, the Peer Support Network and counseling services.

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 **F01-000015-2017**.

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 that your FOI reference number FOI-000015-2017 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 have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

 **SUPERINTENDENT**
HELEN DEELY
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER.

13TH FEBRUARY 2017

MALE 2012

DIVISION	Assault	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Male Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	2					1		3
CLARE	3					1		6
CORK CITY	4	1		1		3	2	11
CORK NORTH	3						2	5
CORK WEST	6			1		4	3	14
D.M.R. EAST	3					4	3	10
D.M.R. NORTH				3		3	1	7
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	7			1		2	2	12
D.M.R. SOUTH	3	1	1	5		3	4	17
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	2			1		3	3	9
D.M.R. WEST	23			6		7	6	42
DONEGAL	21	1		4		7	2	35
GALWAY	4	1		3		1	1	10
KERRY	5					1	1	7
KILDARE	3			3		2	1	9
KILKENNY/CARLOW	1			1				2
LAOIS / OFFALY	3			1			2	6
LIMERICK	4					2	1	7
LOUTH	3	1		1		4		9
MAYO	1	1		1		4		7
MEATH	5			1		2		8
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD				1				1
SLIGO / LEITRIM	2			1		3	1	7
TIPPERARY	7			2	1	3	2	15
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	2	1				16		19
WATERFORD	6							6
WESTMEATH	4			1			1	6
WEXFORD	3						1	4
WICKLOW	5	2		1		2		10
Grand Total	137	11	1	39	1	82	46	317

FEMALE 2012

DIVISION	Assault	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Female Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	1						1	2
CLARE	1			1	1		1	4
CORK CITY	1						1	2
CORK NORTH	1			1				2
CORK WEST								
D.M.R. EAST	1							1
D.M.R. NORTH	1						1	2
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	4	1		1		1	2	10
D.M.R. SOUTH	2		1	1			2	5
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL						1		1
D.M.R. WEST	2			1		2	1	6
DONEGAL	4			1			1	6
GALWAY	2			2			3	7
KERRY								
KILDARE	5						1	6
KILKENNY/CARLOW	3							3
LAOIS / OFFALY	1							1
LIMERICK	1			1		3	2	7
LOUTH	2					2	1	5
MAYO								
MEATH	1			1				2
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	2							2
SLIGO / LEITRIM								
TIPPERARY	1			1	1			3
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)						2	1	3
WATERFORD								
WESTMEATH		1				5	1	7
WEXFORD						1		1
WICKLOW	1					2		3
Grand Total	37	2	1	13	2	20	20	95

MALE 2013

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Bio od or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Smoke Inhalation	Male Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	5		1					1	4	1	12
CLARE	1							1			2
CORK CITY	11			1					1		13
CORK NORTH	7							1	1		9
CORK WEST	3		1					1	1		6
D.M.R. EAST	8	1		1	1	1		7	1		20
D.M.R. NORTH	5			2		1		10	4		22
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	2				1				5		8
D.M.R. SOUTH	15	2	3	1	2	1		4	6		34
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	7			1	1		1	2	4		16
D.M.R. WEST	17			2		1		15	5		40
DONEGAL	14	1		2	1			2	2		22
GALWAY	5		1					3	1		10
KERRY	13				1			2	1		17
KILDARE	3					1		1	3		8
KILKENNY/CARLOW	7			2				1	1		11
LAOIS / OFFALY	4								2		6
LIMERICK	11				2			6	2		21
LOUTH	5			1		2		7			15
MAYO	5				1	1		2	2	2	13
MEATH	3			1				2	2		8
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	3			1				3	1		8
SLIGO / LETRIM	4							5	3		12
TIPPERARY	8	1		1				7	1		18
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)						1		13			14
WATERFORD	7				1			1	1		10
WESTMEATH	3				1						4
WEXFORD	8							1			9
WICKLOW	1			1				5		2	9
Grand Total	189	8	6	17	12	9	1	106	56	5	409

FEMALE 2013

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/ Stab/ Bl or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Female Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	1								1
CLARE						1	1		2
CORK CITY	2			1				3	6
CORK NORTH	2	1							3
CORK WEST									
D.M.R. EAST	2			1				2	6
D.M.R. NORTH	3			1			1	3	8
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	2								2
D.M.R. SOUTH	6				1		2	3	12
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	1	1					1	1	4
D.M.R. WEST	4						4	1	9
DONEGAL	1							1	2
GALWAY	3							1	4
KERRY	2				1			2	5
KILDARE	1								1
KILKENNY/CARLOW	2	1							3
LAOIS / OFFALY	2					1	1		4
LIMERICK							2		2
LOUTH	5				1		1	1	8
MAYO	2							1	3
MEATH	1		1					1	3
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD			1						1
SLIGO / LETRIM	1								1
TIPPERARY	2						1	1	4
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)							1		1
WATERFORD	2				1			1	4
WESTMEATH									
WEXFORD	3								2
WICKLOW									
Grand Total	50	3	3	3	5	2	22	21	109

MALE 2014

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Scab/BI food or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Smoke Inhalation	Male Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	7							2			9
CLARE	5	2		1				2	1		11
CORK CITY	14	1		1	1			3	5		25
CORK NORTH	5	1				1		1			8
CORK WEST	3							1	1		5
D.M.R. EAST	7			1	1			7	3		19
D.M.R. NORTH	12	3	1		1	2		4	3		26
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	7				2	6		2			17
D.M.R. SOUTH	12	7		3	1			5	2		30
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	19	3			1			2	2		27
D.M.R. WEST	21	1	2	4	1		1	5	3		38
DONEGAL	7	2	1	3	3		1	6	4		27
GALWAY	7	2							4		13
KERRY	10	1		2	3			2	4		22
KILDARE	7	1				2		2	4		16
KILKENNY/CARLOW	5	2		1		2		2	2		14
LAOIS / OFFALY	4							1			5
LIMERICK	2						1	5	2		10
LOUTH	8		1		2			6	2		19
MAYO	2							2	1		5
MEATH	7					2		3	2		14
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	3					2			2		7
SLIGO / LETRIM	1				1	1		2	1		6
TIPPERARY	11		3				1	6	3	1	25
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	1	1						4	2		8
WATERFORD	19			1	4	2		4	3		33
WESTMEATH	4	1						3	1		9
WEXFORD	7	1				1	1	1	1		12
WICKLOW	6	2	1		3			2	3		17
Grand Total	225	32	10	19	24	25	5	87	65	1	493

FEMALE 2014

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Female Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	1									1
CLARE	1	1							3	5
CORK CITY		1							1	2
CORK NORTH	1									1
CORK WEST	1									1
D.M.R. EAST	4							2	2	8
D.M.R. NORTH	2	1								3
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	7					2				9
D.M.R. SOUTH	7							2		9
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	2		1			1		1	1	6
D.M.R. WEST	8			1	1			3	1	14
DONEGAL	2							1		3
GALWAY	4	1								5
KERRY	6									6
KILDARE										
KILKENNY/CARLOW	3	1				1			1	6
LAOIS / OFFALY		1						1	1	3
LIMERICK	2								2	4
LOUTH	2	2							2	6
MAYO	1	1						1		3
MEATH	1			1				4		6
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	1									1
SLIGO / LETRIM	2		1							3
TIPPERARY	2							1	2	5
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)					1				1	2
WATERFORD	3					1		1	1	7
WESTMEATH	1	1						1		3
WEXFORD	4		1						1	7
WICKLOW	2									2
Grand Total	70	11	4	2	2	7	2	18	23	139

MALE 2015

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle stick injury/Strab/Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Smoke Inhalation	Male Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	5				1		1	3	1		11
CLARE	5								1		6
CORK CITY	14	1			4			1			20
CORK NORTH	6			3				3	1		13
CORK WEST	5				1		1	1	4		13
D.M.R. EAST	2			1				2	3		8
D.M.R. NORTH	22			1	1		1	7	2		35
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	3	3		2	2			5	1		14
D.M.R. SOUTH	11	1		1	3		1		2		20
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	13	3		1	5				4	1	27
D.M.R. WEST	28				3			9	8		51
DONEGAL	3			1				4	2		10
GALWAY	22		1	2		5		6	3	1	40
KERRY	18			1	3	1	3	5	3		34
KILDARE	2			1	1	1		2	4		11
KILKENNY/CARLOW	5			2				2	1		10
LAOIS / OFFALY	6	1	1	2	2			2	1		13
LIMERICK	5	1			2			2	3		13
LOUTH	10	1	1		1	1		5	3		22
MAYO						1		2	2		5
MEATH	10	1									11
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	4	1			1	1		1			7
SLIGO / LETTRIM	5				1						6
TIPPERARY	10			1		2	2	3	1		19
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	1							3	2		6
WATERFORD	23			1	3		1	1	1		30
WESTMEATH	2				2				1		6
WEXFORD	5	1		1	2	1			3		13
WICKLOW	1			1		1		4	3		10
Grand Total	247	15	3	23	35	29	10	80	70	2	514

FEMALE 2015

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Female Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	1			1		1		1	1	3
CLARE									1	2
CORK CITY	1	1			3				3	8
CORK NORTH	1							1		2
CORK WEST										
D.M.R. EAST	3								1	4
D.M.R. NORTH	8	1				1	1	3	1	14
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL									1	1
D.M.R. SOUTH	2						2	1	4	9
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	2									2
D.M.R. WEST	4				1			3	1	9
DONEGAL								1		1
GALWAY	2		1					2		5
KERRY	6									6
KILDARE	1								1	2
KILKENNY/CARLOW	1								1	2
LAOIS / OFFALY	3									3
LIMERICK	3	1			1	1			2	8
LOUTH	1						1	1		3
MAYO	2									2
MEATH				1	1					2
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	1	1							1	3
SLIGO / LETRIM	1							1		2
TIPPERARY	3			1						4
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)								1	1	2
WATERFORD	5				5			1	1	12
WESTMEATH									1	1
WEXFORD	1				1					2
WICKLOW	1									1
Grand Total	53	4	1	4	12	8	4	17	19	122

Female 2016

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/ Stab/ Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/ Trips/ Falls	Female Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN								1	1
CLARE									
CORK CITY	3	1			1		1	1	7
CORK NORTH	1								1
CORK WEST	1								1
D.M.R. EAST	3			1		1	2	3	10
D.M.R. NORTH	1					1	3	1	6
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	3			1					4
D.M.R. SOUTH						1	1	3	5
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	1								1
D.M.R. WEST	2				1	1	2	1	7
DONEGAL	1			2	1		1		5
GALWAY	1						1		2
KERRY	3						1		4
KILDARE	1							1	2
KILKENNY/CARLOW	4		1				1		6
LAOIS / OFFALY	3				1				4
LIMERICK	1			1				2	4
LOUTH	2						1	1	4
MAYO								1	1
MEATH									
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	3		1					2	6
SLIGO / LETRIM								1	1
TIPPERARY	3							2	5
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)								1	1
WATERFORD	3					2			5
WESTMEATH	3	1	1			1			6
WEXFORD	3		1			1		3	8
WICKLOW						1	1		2
Grand Total	46	3	4	6	4	16	15	25	119

Male 2016

DIVISION	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/Stab/ Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.)	Slips/Trips/Falls	Male Total
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	3			1		2	2	2	10
CLARE	3			3		3	1		10
CORK CITY	15		1	1	3	2	6	3	31
CORK NORTH	6			2					8
CORK WEST	7	2				1		1	11
D.M.R. EAST	5			2	2		2	2	13
D.M.R. NORTH	11				6	3	6	4	33
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	5	2	1	1	1	4	1	2	17
D.M.R. SOUTH	6	1	1	2	1	2	3	9	25
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	11	4		3	1			3	22
D.M.R. WEST	15	3		1	1		5	2	27
DONEGAL	3	1		6	2		3	3	18
GALWAY	6		1	1	1	1	2	1	13
KERRY	20	1		2	1	1	2	2	28
KILDARE	4	1			1		1	1	8
KILKENNY/CARLOW	6		1					3	10
LAOIS / OFFALY	7	1		1		2	7	2	20
LIMERICK	8	3		3		1	6	4	25
LOUTH	6	1			2		3	1	13
MAYO	6				1		1	1	9
MEATH	5				5			2	12
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	2		1		1		4	2	10
SLIGO / LEITRIM	7					1	5	3	16
TIPPERARY	14	2	1		1	1	3	2	24
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	1				1	2	6	1	11
WATERFORD	22			1		5	1	3	32
WESTMEATH	3	1			1	1	1		7
WEXFORD	4			1	1		4	3	13
WICKLOW	2			2	1	1	3		9
Grand Total	213	28	7	35	34	42	79	74	512