

# An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Faisnéise  
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-000443-2016. Granted.

**Dear**

I refer to your request, dated and received on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 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 is shown below:

*'How many gardai in Cork City, Cork West and Cork North divisions are currently on leave of absence; for how long are they on leave; when do these leave periods expire, and how many have applied for leaves of absence between now and the end of 2017?'*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

### **1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.**

I understand a member of staff from this office contacted you to clarify your request and it was agreed that by seeking the figures for 'leave of absence', you were seeking to determine the members who were availing of career breaks.

A search was conducted in the Human Resources Section of An Garda Síochána and the following records have been identified in respect of your request.

The first part of your request sought '*How many gardai in Cork City, Cork West and Cork North divisions are currently on leave of absence?*'

The table below outlines the number of members who are currently availing of career breaks in each of the Cork Divisions:

Division	No. of Gardaí currently on career break
Cork City	11
Cork North	2
Cork West	2

The career break scheme provides that Garda members may be granted special leave without pay for a period of not less than 6 months and not more than 5 years. In addition to the general career break scheme, the incentivised career break scheme was introduced in 2013 as a once-off scheme whereby members would receive one third of their normal yearly salary (i.e. less allowances, overtime, etc) subject to a maximum of €12,500 per annum. The above figures are inclusive of those members who are availing of both incentivised career breaks and general career breaks.

The second part of your request sought '*for how long are they on leave*'. I am to advise you that all applicants from the Cork City and Cork West Divisions are availing of a 3-year career break. The two applicants from Cork North are availing of a 3 year and 1 year career break respectively.

The third part of your request has sought '*when do these leave periods expire*'. The expiry date of the applicant's career breaks across the three Divisions and the number of staff due to return to work on those dates is listed below:

Expiry Date	No. of members
March 2017	1
May 2017	1
June 2017	2
August 2017	1
October 2017	1
January 2018	5
February 2018	4

The last part of your request is seeking '*how many have applied for leaves of absence between now and the end of 2017?*' I can now advise you that one (1) member of An Garda Síochána is due to commence a career break between now and the end of 2017.

## **2. Rights 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-000443-2016**



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:** BOFIIIE2D

**You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000443-2016) 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 will be removed to protect confidentiality where applicable.

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.**

16<sup>th</sup> **DECEMBER, 2016**