

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-000095-2019 Request Part-Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 25th February 2019 and received on 26th February 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 next 4 dates that probational Gardaí will graduate from Garda Training College, Templemore in tabular form

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 14th March 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt of your request, a search was conducted in the Human Resource Management Section of An Garda Síochána in respect of same.

This office has been advised that there are only two dates confirmed for attestation and these are scheduled to take place on 8th March 2019 (this attestation has already taken place) and 7th June 2019. It should be noted that the Graduation and Attestation are two separate events.

The Attestation takes place on successful completion of Phase I of the training programme and is a closed ceremony, i.e. no members of the public are in attendance at the Attestation ceremony. On completion of Phase I of the training programme, trainee Gardaí are attested and sworn in as Gardaí (Probationers). There are still two more phases of training to be completed and trainees remain in their probation period for two years after attestation.

The Passing Out ceremony is a formal marching (Parade) ceremony which takes place in the front Parade Square of the Garda College. This takes place on the same day as the Attestation and family and friends of the attested probationer Gardaí are in attendance for this ceremony.

The graduation is a separate ceremony that comes at the end of the two year training programme on successful completion of the programme.

I am refusing to provide the further two dates of attestation in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act 2014 which states:

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 –

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

No dates have yet been confirmed for further attestation ceremonies after June 2019 and therefore, the record does not exist.

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-000095-2019**.

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: IE86BOFI90001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000095-2019) 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 OFFICER**
MARIA BRODIGAN
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

14th MARCH 2019