

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-000233-2020 Request Part Granted

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 8th July 2020 and received on 9th July 2020 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:

I wish to apply under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for the following information relating to garda manpower:

a-The number of appointed detectives in the Garda at year's end for each of the years between 1995-2019.

b-The number of Detective Assistants in the Garda at year's end for each of the years between 1995-2019.

I have now made a decision to part grant your request on 5th August 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

Section(2)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 defines the effective date of the Act for An Garda Síochána as “*in the case of an entity that immediately prior to enactment of this Act, was not a public body within the meaning of the Act of 1997, but is a public body within the meaning of this Act, 21 April 2008*”. Therefore records prior to 2008 fall outside of the scope of the Act as it pertains to An Garda Síochána.

Details of your request were provided to the Human Resources Section of An Garda Síochána to identify records containing the information you have requested.

The table below lists the number of members with detective duties from end-2008 to end-2019.

| Year | No of Detectives |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 31/12/2008 | 1925 |
| 31/12/2009 | 2000 |
| 31/12/2010 | 1953 |
| 31/12/2011 | 1933 |
| 31/12/2012 | 1842 |
| 31/12/2013 | 1795 |
| 31/12/2014 | 1783 |
| 31/12/2015 | 1748 |
| 31/12/2016 | 1628 |
| 31/12/2017 | 1933 |
| 31/12/2018 | 2057 |
| 31/12/2019 | 2181 |

In respect of the second part of your request, the rank or grade of “Detective Assistant” does not exist within An Garda Síochána. I am therefore refusing this part of your request on administrative grounds, as the record sought does not exist. This refusal is based on Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act:

Section 15 – 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,

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-000233-2020**.

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 your FOI reference number FOI-000233-2020 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 the FOI office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

5th AUGUST 2020.