

# 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](http://www.garda.ie)

Riomh-phoist:/Email: [foi@garda.ie](mailto:foi@garda.ie)

## Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000504-2019 Request Granted

**Dear**

I refer to your request, dated and received on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 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:

*In accordance with section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, I request access to the following records which are related to human resources:*

- *The total number of legal staff employed by An Garda Síochána as of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019*
- *The number of solicitors employed by An Garda Síochána as of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019*
- *The number of barristers employed by An Garda Síochána as of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to grant your request on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

## 1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the Human Resource Management Section of An Garda Síochána who have in turn provided this office with the requested records.

The table below outlines the legal professional staff employed in the Legal Section of An Garda Síochána in the requested years. You will note that this table is broken down by professional type. Please be advised that these professionals have been specifically employed as legal professional by An Garda Síochána to carry out specific roles within the organisation.

	31/12/15	31/12/16	31/12/17	31/12/18	31/12/19
<b>Head of Legal Affairs</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Senior Solicitor</b>	0	0	1	1	1
<b>Solicitor</b>	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Legal Professionals</b>	0	0	0	0	3

It should be noted that there are both Garda members and civilian staff across the organisation who have also obtained legal qualifications in their own personal time but they are not specifically employed by An Garda Síochána in a professional legal capacity. Records relating to the academic qualifications of staff is not held centrally but is recorded on their personal file. In order for to retrieve these records would require a manual trawl through all personal files.

## 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-000504-2019**.

**Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, 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-000504-2019 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](http://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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Brodigan ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
**MARIA BRODIGAN**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER**

9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2020.