

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 ND62



Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown, Navan,
Co Meath.
C15 ND62

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:
www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000201-2024 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated and received on 5th June, 2024 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 am seeking the following under the Freedom of Information Act -

- 1. The number of Gardai currently suspended from duty; their rank and reasons for their suspension.*
- 2. The number of Gardai initially suspended in 2023 and for the for the first five months of 2024.*
- 3. The pay entitlements of Gardai who are suspended from duty and the total amount paid out to suspended Gardai last year.*
- 4. The number of Gardai suspended in excess of 10 years
The number of Gardai suspended between eight and 10 years.
The number of Gardai suspended between eight and six years
The number of Gardai suspended between five and six years*

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*The number of Gardai suspended between four and five years.
The number of Gardai suspended between four and three years
The number of Gardai suspended between three and two years.
The number of Gardai suspended between two and one years
The number of Gardai suspended between one and six months*

5. *Where a Garda has been suspended from duty in excess of three years, the reasons why members are suspended for that duration and more.*

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part grant your request on the 24th June, 2024. I have numbered your request for ease of reference. The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

Upon receipt of your request, the relevant sections of An Garda Síochána were contacted to retrieve the information requested by you and a number of records have been identified.

In relation to part 1 of your request which seeks “*The number of Gardai currently suspended from duty; their rank and reasons for their suspension.*”. The tables below provide the details requested.

Current Members on Suspension by Rank	
Rank	Total
Inspector & Above	1
Detective Garda	11
Garda	59
Probationer Garda	11
Reserve Garda	2
Sergeant	7
Grand Total	91

Core Issues Investigated by AGS & GSOC	
Main Reason	Total
Theft / Forgery / Fraud / Dishonesty	14
Sexual Assault / Sexual Misconduct	12
Driving under Influence of Intoxicant	12
Disclosure of Information / Data Protection / Abuse of PULSE	9
Fixed Charge Notice (FCN) Interference	9
Domestic Violence / Coercive Control	8
Corruption / Criminal Association	8
Assault / Assault Causing Harm	5
Drugs / Drug Related	5
Other	9
Grand Total	91

In relation to part 2 of your request I can advise that the number of Gardai initially suspended in 2023 was 27 and for the first five months of 2024 it was 2.

I am refusing to release the records seeking “*The pay entitlements of Gardai who are suspended from duty and the total amount paid out to suspended Gardai last year*” in accordance with Section 15 (1)(c). These records are not held centrally and would require reviewing individual members files to establish amounts paid to members. This volume of work would cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with and significantly disrupt the workload of the relevant offices.

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests:

Section 15(1)(c) of the FOI Act 2014 states;

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

(c) in the opinion of the head, granting the request would, by reason of the number or nature of the records concerned or the nature of the information concerned, require the retrieval and examination of such number of records or an examination of such kind of the records concerned as to cause a substantial and unreasonable interference with or disruption of work (including disruption of work in a particular functional area) of the FOI body concerned,

The table below details the records sought in part 4 of your request.

Number of Members Suspended Duration	Duration
The numbers who are currently suspended 10 years and over	Nil
The numbers who are currently suspended 8 - 10 years	Nil
The numbers who are currently suspended 8 - 6 years	Nil
The numbers who are currently suspended 5 - 6 years	2
The numbers who are currently suspended 4 - 5 years	9
The numbers who are currently suspended 4 - 3 years	20
The numbers who are currently suspended 3 - 2 years	24
The numbers who are currently suspended 2 - 1 years	21
The numbers who are currently suspended 6 months to 1 year	10
The numbers who are currently suspended 1 to 6 months	5

As regards part 5 of your request I can advise that there are 31 members of An Garda Síochána suspended in excess of 3 years with 23 of these members currently before the Criminal Courts and 8 Members suspended arising from ongoing Disciplinary or Dismissal processes.

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-000201-2024**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath, C15 ND62.

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: An Garda Síochána Imprest Account

Account Number: 30000302

Sort Code: 951599

IBAN: IE28DABA95159930000302

BIC: DABAIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number FOI-000201-2024 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 the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PAUL BASSETT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

24 **JUNE, 2024.**