

“Complaints made against members of An Garda Síochána from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2021.

I request that this should be broken by the nature of the complaint, the rank of the AGS member involved, and the outcome of the complaint.”

Explanation of terms in the below table:

Allegations

Abuse of Authority – excessive use of force, or an instruction to do something which the person making the complaint believes was beyond the garda’s authority to instruct, are the main types of allegation categorised as ‘abuse of authority’.

Discourtesy – complaints around how a garda spoke to or behaved towards a person.

Neglect of Duty – allegations that a garda failed to take an action that could have been reasonably expected – such as returning a phone call at one end of the scale, or properly investigating an alleged serious crime at the other end of the scale - would be typical examples of ‘neglect of duty’.

Non-Fatal Offences – these are allegations of a criminal offence listed in the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act 1997 and include, for example, assault.

Outcomes

Garda Commissioner identified no breach of discipline regulations identified – At conclusion of investigation the report received by GSOC indicated no breach of discipline.

Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable –There was not enough evidence to substantiate either version of events. Complaint could not be proven or disproven.

Non-cooperation by the complainant - The complainant failed to engage with investigation.

GSOC identifies no misbehaviour following criminal investigation – The most common scenario here is that there was no independent evidence to prove the allegations made.

Local Intervention - Local Intervention (LI) is a process whereby complaints made by members of the public to GSOC about the service which they have received from the Garda Síochána may be resolved at a local level. The process entails nominated Garda Inspectors contacting the person making the complaint, establishing what the issues are, and attempting to resolve matters to the complainant’s satisfaction.

Informal Resolution - Process provided for by section 90 of the Act for dealing with less serious allegations, such as rudeness. A GSOC case officer speaks to the person complaining and the garda member with the aim of resolving the matter. Local intervention is now more frequently used to resolve service-type complaints.

N.B. - It is possible for a complaint to have more than one outcome e.g. a complaint may be inadmissible due to the fact that does it not constitute misbehaviour and it may also be deemed that further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable.

2021

Total number of complaints - 445

Total number of allegations – 628

Allegation Type

Allegation Type	Complaints	Allegations
Abuse of Authority	48	58
Corrupt or Improper Practice	2	2
Discourtesy	35	37
Discreditable Conduct	2	2
Discrimination	2	2
Falsehood or Prevarication	3	6
Inadmissible Allegations	107	111
Improper use of Information	1	1
Misuse of Money or Property	3	3
Neglect of Duty	94	125
Non-fatal Offence	21	46
Other	2	3
Road Traffic Infringement	1	1
Sexual Offence	1	1
Allegation not yet determined	168	230

Rank of Garda member

Garda Rank	Complaints	Allegations
Chief Superintendent	2	2
Commissioner Ranks	2	3
Detective Garda	7	8
Detective Sergeant	1	1

Garda	187	309
Inspector	6	6
Not Provided	240	258
Sergeant	26	32
Student/Probationer	1	1
Superintendent	7	8

Outcome

Outcome	Complaints	Allegations
Inadmissible	107	111
Complaints admitted for investigation:		
Allegation Withdrawn	10	15
Frivolous or Vexatious	1	1
Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable	13	19
Awaiting Outcome	314	482

2020

Total number of complaints – 1,955

Total number of allegations – 3,193

Allegation Type

Allegation Type	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Abuse of Authority	252	465
Corrupt or Improper Practice	14	23
Criminal Damage	15	26
Discourtesy	168	233
Discreditable Conduct	1	29
Discrimination	5	5
Falsehood or Prevarication	17	40
Inadmissible Allegations	688	751
Improper use of Information	14	15
Misuse of Money or Property	9	12
Neglect of Duty	382	667
Non-fatal Offence	243	437
Other	37	55
Road Traffic Infringement	21	22
Sexual Offence	4	4
Theft and Fraud	9	13
Allegation not yet determined	276	396

Rank of Garda member

Garda Rank	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Chief Superintendent	7	7
Commissioner Ranks	6	6
Detective Garda	35	52
Detective Inspector	1	1
Detective Sergeant	10	10

Garda	973	1,827
Inspector	44	50
Not Provided	855	917
Sergeant	183	261
Student/Probationer	4	8
Superintendent	50	54

Outcome

Outcome	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Deemed Inadmissible Prior To Investigation	687	746
Withdrawn Prior To Decision	2	2
Complaints admitted for investigation		
Advice	12	14
Allegation Withdrawn	119	184
Caution	5	5
Frivolous or Vexatious	1	2
Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable	365	630
Garda Discipline Regulations no longer apply to member	5	6
Garda Commissioner identified no breach of Discipline Regulations	101	169
GSOC identifies no misbehaviour by member following criminal investigations	13	26
Inadmissible	16	16
Non-cooperation by complainant	19	23
Previously Recorded in Formal Recommendation	2	2
Reduction in pay not exceeding 2 weeks' pay	1	1

Referred to DPP - No Prosecution Directed	1	1
Reprimand	1	1
Warning	3	3
Awaiting outcome	630	1,362

2019

Total number of complaints – 1,754

Total number of allegations – 3,191

Allegation Type

Allegation Type	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Abuse of Authority	229	454
Accessory	1	1
Corrupt or Improper Practice	10	17
Criminal Damage	21	49
Discourtesy	156	259
Discreditable Conduct	16	28
Discrimination	5	6
Falsehood or Prevarication	21	28
Inadmissible Allegation	593	668
Improper use of Information	21	28
Intoxication	2	6
Misuse of Money or Property	11	16
Neglect of Duty	419	752
Non-fatal Offence	300	583
Other	57	85
Road Traffic Infringement	23	29
Sexual Offence	12	22
Theft and Fraud	12	23
Allegation not yet determined	64	137

Rank of Garda member

Garda Rank	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Commissioner Ranks	1	1
Chief Superintendent	13	14
Detective Garda	53	83

Detective Inspector	2	3
Detective Sergeant	21	26
Detective Superintendent	4	4
Garda	878	1859
Inspector	43	51
Not Provided	733	791
Sergeant	210	292
Student/Probationer	2	2
Superintendent	54	65

Outcome

Outcome	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Deemed Inadmissible	586	650
Withdrawn Prior To Decision	6	6
Outcome of Complaints Investigated		
Advice	18	18
Allegation Withdrawn	125	218
Caution	5	7
Fine imposed	5	6
Frivolous or Vexatious	1	1
Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable	582	1,047
Garda Discipline Regulations no longer apply to member	5	6
Garda Commissioner identified no breach of Discipline Regulations	179	341
GSOC identifies no misbehaviour by member following criminal investigation	44	99
Inadmissible	19	53
Non-cooperation by complainant	25	33

Previously Recorded in Formal Recommendation	5	10
Reduction in pay not exceeding 2 weeks' pay	3	6
Referred to DPP - Prosecution Directed	1	3
Reprimand	1	1
Warning	2	2
Awaiting Outcome	197	684

2018

Total number of complaints – 1,917

Total number of allegations – 3,143

Allegation Type

Allegation Type	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Abuse of Authority	293	476
Corrupt or Improper Practice	10	12
Criminal Damage	14	23
Discourtesy	235	310
Discreditable Conduct	27	39
Falsehood or Prevarication	24	32
Inadmissible Allegation	573	597
Improper use of Information	20	25
Misuse of Money or Property	12	19
Neglect of Duty	561	863
Non-fatal Offence	284	554
Other	75	116
Road Traffic Infringement	25	30
Sexual Offence	9	11
Theft and Fraud	19	27
Allegation not yet determined	8	9

Rank of Garda member

Garda Rank	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Commissioner Ranks	1	1
Chief Superintendent	9	9
Detective Garda	74	106
Detective Inspector	2	2
Detective Sergeant	22	25
Detective Superintendent	2	2

Garda	901	1682
Inspector	21	35
Not Provided	861	941
Sergeant	199	262
Student/Probationer	1	1
Superintendent	73	77

Outcome

Outcome	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Deemed Inadmissible	579	605
Withdrawn Prior to Decision	19	19
Withdrawn Prior to Investigation	2	2
Outcome of complaints admitted:		
Advice	29	31
Allegation Withdrawn	128	196
Caution	9	9
Closed Informally Resolved	1	2
Fine imposed	8	9
Frivolous or Vexatious	1	1
Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable	807	1,455
Garda Discipline Regulations no longer apply to member	10	18
Garda Commissioner identified no breach of Discipline Regulations	232	413
GSOC identifies no misbehaviour by member following criminal investigation	45	114
Inadmissible	13	19
Non cooperation by complainant	23	65
Previously Recorded in Formal Recommendation	4	11

Reduction in pay not exceeding 2 weeks' pay	7	8
Reduction in pay not exceeding 4 weeks' pay	2	3
Referred to DPP - No Prosecution Directed	10	20
Referred to DPP - Prosecution Directed	2	4
Reprimand	4	4
Resolved through Local Intervention	1	1
Warning	8	10
Awaiting Outcome	47	124

2017

Total number of complaints – 1,949

Total number of allegations – 4,708

Allegation Type

Allegation Type	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Abuse of Authority	818	1490
Corrupt or Improper Practice	13	16
Criminal Damage	23	36
Discourtesy	362	575
Discreditable Conduct	25	31
Discrimination	23	35
Falsehood or Prevarication	95	125
Inadmissible Allegations	65	72
Improper use of Information	64	77
Intoxication	2	2
Misuse of Money or Property	29	43
Neglect of Duty	802	1425
Non-fatal Offence	264	587
Other	57	80
Road Traffic Infringement	48	60
Sexual Offence	7	9
Theft and Fraud	22	37
Allegation not yet determined	4	8

Rank of Garda member

Garda Rank	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Chief Superintendent	16	18
Commissioner Ranks	8	8
Deputy Commissioner	1	1
Detective Garda	91	195

Detective Inspector	7	11
Detective Sergeant	30	50
Detective Superintendent	6	7
Garda	1089	2719
Inspector	38	50
Not Provided	799	1119
Sergeant	242	417
Superintendent	87	113

Outcome

Outcome	Count of Cases	Count of Allegations
Deemed Inadmissible	592	847
Withdrawn Prior to Decision	18	22
Outcome of complaints investigated		
Advice	25	27
Allegation Withdrawn	148	286
Caution	14	16
Informal Resolution	3	4
Fine imposed	12	16
Further investigation not necessary or reasonably practicable	871	2,410
Garda Discipline Regulations no longer apply to member	3	3
Garda Commissioner identified no breach of Discipline Regulations	226	496
GSOC identifies no misbehaviour by member following criminal investigation	35	121
Inadmissible	134	223
Non cooperation by complainant	33	147
Previously Recorded in Formal Recommendation	2	9

Reduction in pay not exceeding 2 weeks' pay	10	13
Reduction in pay not exceeding 4 weeks' pay	1	1
Referred to DPP - No Prosecution Directed	10	16
Referred to DPP - Prosecution Directed	4	11
Reprimand	3	4
Resolved through Local Intervention	1	1
Warning	5	5
Awaiting Outcome	11	29