

**An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
agus Comhionannais**
Department of Justice
and Equality



Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí | Office of the Secretary General

Ms Margaret Falsey
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Your ref: PAC32-I-1084

**Re: Request for information in relation to site acquisition
in relation to Garda stations at Clonmel, Sligo and Macroom**

Dear Ms. Falsey,

I refer to your letter of 2 October 2018 requesting information for the Committee of Public Accounts in relation to site acquisition of a bundle of three new Garda stations in Clonmel, Sligo and Cork and progress made on this process. I note the Committee has also written to the Office of Public Works (OPW) on the same matter.

As you are aware, as part of the overall Garda Building and Refurbishment Programme, a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement is intended to deliver new Garda stations at Sligo, Macroom and Clonmel. It may also encompass certain works within an existing site in Anglesea Street in Cork.

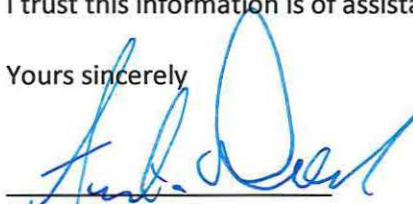
The OPW is in the ordinary way responsible for the acquisition of the relevant sites to allow the Garda project to progress.

I understand that the site in Macroom was acquired by the OPW in 2015 and that the site acquisition in Sligo was completed earlier this year. I further understand that the site at Clonmel is already in state ownership and that work is continuing between the OPW and Tipperary County Council on its transfer from the Council to the OPW. On completion, ownership of all three sites will be vested in the OPW.

The Department of Justice and Equality is engaging with the NDFA in relation to the appropriate scope and governance of the PPP. These PPP arrangements also include a Courts Service project at a site in Hammond Lane, Dublin 7. When these discussions are more advanced, particularly in relation to timelines, we will provide an update to the Committee.

I trust this information is of assistance to the Committee in its ongoing work.

Yours sincerely


Aidan O'Driscoll
Secretary General

10 October, 2018