

Patrick Fannin

From: Gillian X. Gilleran <GXGilleran@justice.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 16 February 2022 18:36
To: Public Accounts Committee
Cc: SecGenOffice
Subject: RE: Correspondence from the Committee of Public Accounts
Attachments: 2022.02.16 - Response to PAC - GSOC - S0722 PAC33.pdf

Categories: Correspondence for future meetings

Dear Sarah,

Please find attached the Secretary General's response for the attention and consideration of the Committee.

This is be sent via email only and ask you acknowledge receipt of same.

Kind regards,
Gillian

Gillian Gilleran

Rúnaí Príobháideach don Ard-Rúnaí / Private Secretary to the Secretary General

Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí | Office of the Secretary General

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From: Public Accounts Committee <PAC@oireachtas.ie>
Sent: Friday 4 February 2022 15:00
To: SecGenOffice <SecGenOffice@justice.ie>
Cc: Public Accounts Committee <PAC@oireachtas.ie>
Subject: Correspondence from the Committee of Public Accounts

Dear Secretary General,

Please find attached correspondence from the Committee of Public Accounts. Please can you acknowledge receipt of same.

Kind regards,

Sarah

Sarah Cremin
Cléireach Sóisearach
Rúnaíocht na gCoistí | Committees' Secretariat
Seirbhís Thithe an Oireachtas | Houses of the Oireachtas Service

Teach Laighean | Leinster House
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Cuireann Seirbhís Thithe an Oireachtais fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge

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 Oireachtas email policy and disclaimer. oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/

Is le haghaidh an duine nó an eintitis ar a bhfuil sí dírithe, agus le haghaidh an duine nó an eintitis sin amháin, a bheartaítear an fhaisnéis a tarchuireadh agus féadfaidh sé go bhfuil ábhar faoi rún agus/nó faoi phribhléid inti. Toirmisctear aon athbhreithniú, atarchur nó leathadh a dhéanamh ar an bhfaisnéis seo, aon úsáid eile a bhaint aisti nó aon ghníomh a dhéanamh ar a hiontaoibh, ag daoine nó ag eintitis seachas an faighteoir beartaithe. Má fuair tú é seo trí dhearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir, le do thoil, agus scríos an t-ábhar as aon ríomhaire. Is é beartas na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt, na nOifigí agus na nGníomhaireachtaí a úsáideann seirbhísí TF na Roinne seoladh ábhair cholúil a dhícheadú.

Más rud é go measann tú gur ábhar colúil atá san ábhar atá sa teachtaireacht seo is ceart duit dul i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir láithreach agus le mailminder[ag]justice.ie chomh maith.

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Mr. Martin Hughes,
Clerk to the
Committee of Public Accounts

By email only: pac@oireachtas.ie

16 February 2021

Your reference: S0722 PAC33
Our reference: DJE-SG-00002-2022

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I refer to your correspondence of 4 February 2022 requesting information from this Department regarding industrial action, undertaken by the Association of Garda Chief Superintendents and the Association of Garda Superintendents, which was impacting, at the time of the Committee's meeting, on the operations of the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC).

This industrial action was undertaken by the two representative Associations as a result of issues relating to the review of an allowance - the Availability Allowance - which is paid to Superintendents and Chief Superintendents. This review and associated industrial relations matters have been the subject of extensive engagement at official and Ministerial level over a number of years.

As part of an ongoing process of engagement, the matter under dispute was before the Labour Court in December 2021. The Court recommended that all parties to the dispute should engage effectively to reach agreement with the support of the Conciliation Service of the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC). Should the parties be unable to reach a final agreement by 30 April 2022, the matter will be referred back to the Labour Court for a definitive recommendation.

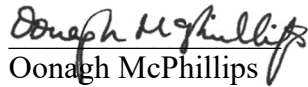
Following engagement at the WRC on 26 January 2022 and 1 February 2022, I am pleased to inform the Committee that agreement was reached between the parties on a mechanism to move the matter under dispute forward over the next two months. As part of this agreement, the Association of Garda Chief Superintendents and the Association of Garda Superintendents undertook to suspend their industrial action.

As a result, it was agreed that the Superintendents and Chief Superintendents will return, on a phased, balanced and realistic basis, to carrying out the activities which they had characterised as being outside of their core duties. This includes a return to carrying out relevant GSOC investigations once again.

This Department will continue to work to ensure that a final resolution to the dispute is achieved.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Oonagh McPhillips
Secretary General