



OIFIG AN AIRE DLÍ AGUS CIRT AGUS COMHIONANNAIS
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Ms Róisín Shortall T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

8 March 2019

Dear Deputy Shortall

I refer to your Parliamentary Question No 486 for answer on Tuesday, 15 January 2019 the text of which was as follows:-

"To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the resources set aside for the operation of the Garda anti-corruption unit; the benchmarks which will be used to ensure it meets international best practice standards in investigating corruption; and if statistics will be gathered and published on the number of allegations and or reports, detections, investigations and prosecutions undertaken or supported by the unit."

At the time I responded that I would request the information sought by you from the Garda Commissioner and that I would write directly to you on receipt of same.

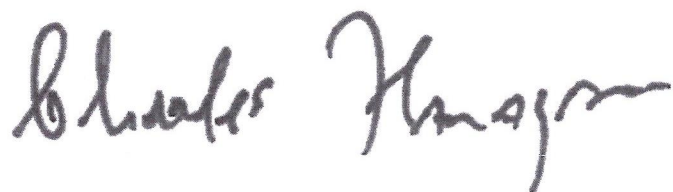
As you will appreciate, it is the Garda Commissioner who is responsible for carrying on and managing and controlling generally the administration and business of An Garda Síochána and I, as Minister, have no direct role in the matter.

On 18 December 2018, the Government endorsed the report of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland and agreed to accept all 157 key recommendations contained in the report, including those related to reviewing the Garda discipline system. On 18 December 2018 I also published a four year high level plan, '*A Policing Service for the Future*', which sets out the approach to implementation of the Commission's recommendations. Implementation of the Commission's recommendations is already being advanced. Reviewing the discipline system in An Garda Síochána, including the development of an anti-corruption unit in An Garda Síochána is one of the projects being advanced

throughout 2019. As such I am informed by the Commissioner that it is not possible to provide the specific information requested at present.

I hope that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Flanagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charlie Flanagan T.D.
Minister for Justice and Equality.