



Garda Representative Association 5th Floor, Phibsboro Tower, Dublin 7
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GRA 12/15 (PE/MM)

Each member: Garda Representative Association

30 January 2018

GRA Elections 2018



Dear colleague

The future of the Garda Representative Association depends upon your participation in the forthcoming electoral process. It is important that the Association is renewed and refreshed by a steady flow of representatives so that the greatest proportion of Association members can be actively engaged throughout their careers in the Association. These voices provide fresh and balanced thinking coupled with new ideas that may generate modern and appropriate policy.

The Association is run, controlled and directed by its members who act through democratically elected District and Divisional Committees, Central Executive Committee and Annual Delegate Conference. Therefore it is your hands to ensure that colleagues are elected to run the Association at every level. In this era of seeking to complete the restoration of our pay and allowances, we need a strong, active, vibrant and efficient Association which can only be provided through a prudent and robust electoral process. Some members may not always approve of what the Association is doing and those who would like to articulate an alternative view now have an opportunity to contribute if they wish. The role of elected representatives is challenging but satisfying, supporting those colleagues in their hour of greatest need.

In the coming weeks, elections shall take place to fill Association Committees at local and national levels. In the course of these elections you shall decide who runs our Association for the next four years. In doing so you will determine the effectiveness and calibre of the Association at every level and the outcome will be vital to the well-being of the Garda Organisation.

The procedure and timeframe for GRA Elections 2018 are detailed overleaf; all of the different phases of the election process are outlined - District Committee, Divisional Committee and Central Executive Committee.

There is now an opportunity for you to take up the challenge.

The enclosed nomination paper has issued to each member of the GRA in every District. If you are interested in the affairs of the Association you should consider having your name put forward as a Candidate. You will be given full training and support. This will provide many opportunities to have your voice heard; directly with local management and to national level through the structures of the GRA.

You will enjoy the support and comradeship of your colleagues and the protection of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Association and the Garda Commissioner.

This could be your opportunity to shape your Association in a modern Ireland.

Pat Ennis
General Secretary

Garda Representative Association Elections 2018

In accordance with the Constitution and Rules of the Garda Representative Association elections to District, Divisional and Central Executive Committees shall now take place for a four year term. Members of the Association are urged to participate.

PROCEDURE

- A. Completed nomination papers must reach the Association's office, Floor 5, Phibsboro Tower, Dublin 7 **by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 20 February 2018**. Ballot papers will issue by **Thursday, 22 February 2018**.
- B. Ballot papers must be returned (envelope will be supplied) to reach Merry Mullen & Co., Chartered Accountants, 18 Westland Square, Pearse Street, Dublin 2 **not later than 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 14 March, 2018**.
- C. Newly elected District Committees will hold their first meeting **on or before Wednesday, 21 March 2018**.
- D. Newly elected Divisional Committees will hold their first meeting **on or before Tuesday, 27 March 2018**. In accordance with Rule 50 of the Garda Representative Association all District representatives may attend for the purpose of nominating and seconding candidates of the Divisional Committee to go forward for election to form the Central Executive Committee.
- E. Notification of nominees for the Central Executive Committee should be forwarded to the Association's office, Floor 5, Phibsboro Tower, Dublin 7 **by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, 3 April 2018**.
- F. Ballot papers for election to Central Executive Committee will issue by **Wednesday 4 April 2018**. Ballot papers must be returned (envelope will be supplied) to reach Merry Mullen & Co., Chartered Accountants, 18 Westland Square, Pearse Street, Dublin 2 **not later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 24 April 2018**.
- G. Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Standing Orders Committee should be submitted to the Association's office, Floor 5, Phibsboro Tower, Dublin 7 **not later than 5 p.m. on Friday, 27 April, 2018**.
- H. Newly elected Central Executive Committee will take up office at the close of the Annual Delegate Conference **on Wednesday, 30 May 2018**.

COMPLETING NOMINATION FORM

1. **The nomination of candidates for election to District Committees shall be on the enclosed prescribed nomination form.** Gardai who are subscribing members of the Association shall be eligible for election provided they are permanently attached to the GRA District in respect of which they seek election in accordance with Rule 36 (a) (i).
2. A member of the Association may nominate another member of the Association from his/her GRA District. A member wishing to do so should enter the name of the member he/she wishes to nominate in Section 1 of the nomination form. He/she should then sign his/her own name and registered number in the same section.
3. It will then be necessary to have another member of the Association from the same District endorse and second that nomination. A member wishing to do this should do so on Section 2 of the nomination form. He/she shall then sign his/her own name and registered number in the same section.
4. The member nominated and seconded in the above manner should indicate his/her acceptance of the nomination by completing Section 3 of the nomination form and should sign his/her name and registered number in that section.
5. It is important to note that to be eligible for inclusion on a ballot paper a nomination form must bear the signature of (1) the nominator, (2) the seconder and (3) the candidate.
6. Fax/email copies of nomination papers will not be acceptable.
7. **Duplicate ballot papers will not issue, therefore it is imperative that the Association has details of your current address for correspondence.** It is the Association's policy to enfranchise members rather than to disenfranchise members so please ensure that your proper contact details are recorded.