

FOI DOF/2024-0522

Request

1. Please provide the number and Job Title of each Grade 6 post, by Department, including how each post is classified (Specialist or General Service) and how each post is currently filled (substantive, temporary promotion or vacant).
2. Regarding the plan to launch a Grade 6 competition in early 2025, please provide the submission(s) considered by NICS Board which informed their decision to launch a competition.

DoF Response

I can confirm the Department holds some of the information requested.

1. Detail of the total number of posts (staffing establishment) in each Department is not held centrally by the Department of Finance (DOF). Each department determines and manages its individual workforce needs.

DOF holds information centrally in respect of NICS Grade 6 staff in post along with staff who are currently temporarily promoted to Grade 6.

Table 1 provides a list of substantive Grade 6 staff in post by Department, and staff on temporary promotion to Grade 6, as at end of October 2024 (the most current information held at time of request). The figures do not include the 29 substantive Grade 6 staff temporarily promoted to a higher grade.

Table 1.

Department	NICS Occupational Group	Substantive Grade 6	Staff TP'd to Grade 6	Total
DAERA	Agricultural Economists	1		1
	Computing	2		2
	General Service	20	20	40
	Accountant		1	1
	Science Grades	2		2
	Veterinary Officers	8	2	10
DE	DE Inspectorate	27	7	34
	General Service	3	6	9
DfC	Computing	1		1
	Economists		1	1
	General Service	4	18	22
DfE	DE Inspectorate	1		1
	Economists	2		2

	General Service	3	8	11
Dfl	Civil Engineers	7	3	10
	Computing	1		1
	General Service	7	6	13
	Planning Office Staff	2		2
DoF	Computing	6		6
	Economists	1		1
	General Service	17	10	27
	Legal Grades	31	3	34
	Medical Officers	6		6
	Statisticians	12		12
	Valuation	5		5
DoH	General Service	8	6	14
	M&E Engineers		1	1
	Pharmacists	4		4
DOJ	Computing	1		1
	General Service	11	15	26
	Legal Grades	4	1	5
	Medical Officers	1		1
PPS	Computing	1		1
	General Service	2	1	3
	Legal Grades	60		60
TEO	General Service	1		1
Total		262	109	371

Source: HRConnect Month End October 2024

As advised above, the total number of posts, including the detail and the total number of vacant posts, in each Department is not held centrally by DOF, as each Civil Service department is responsible for managing its resources. When a department identifies a vacant post which needs to be filled, the request is referred to DOF NICS HR to initiate the process to fill the post.

As at the end of October 2024 (most current information available at time of request), NICS HR was managing a case load of 33 vacancies at Grade 6. It is not possible to identify from central records held if any of the 33 vacancies are currently covered by staff recorded at Table 1.

Table 2 provides a list of the 33 vacancies by Department.

Table 2.

Department	NICS Occupational Group	General Service	Non-General Service	Total
DAERA	Forestry		2	2
	General Service	13		13
	Science Grades		1	1
DE	DE Inspectorate		4	4

	General Service	3		3
DfC	General Service	3		3
DoF	General Service	2		2
	Medical Officers		3	3
DOJ	Medical Officers		1	1
PPS	General Service	1		1
Total		22	11	33

Source: NICS Vacancy Management trackers Month End October 2024

2. A submission was not made to the NICS Board.