ANNEX A

FOI DOF/2024-0552

Request

In relation to IRC265817:

I would like to request some information on the recruitment of this competition.

1. What phase is currently being recruited.

2. What was the last phase of recruitment.

3. How many vacancies of EO2 are currently available.

4. Which areas are the vacancies available in.

5. When are the vacancies expected to be filled.

DoF Response

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

1. Phase 11 of the EO2 competition is currently taking place.

2. The last phase that was completed was Phase 10.

3. Details of the total number of vacant posts in each department is not held centrally by Department of Finance. Each Civil Service department is responsible for managing its resources – both financial and staff. Each department determines its individual workforce needs and is responsible for ensuring that any additional staffing resources are affordable. When a department identifies a vacancy that needs filled, the request is referred to NICSHR to initiate the process to fill the post. NICSHR liaises with all departments on an ongoing basis to seek to prioritise recruitment activity within allocated financial and staff resources.

As at the end of November 2024, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), the NICSHR caseload for Executive Officer 2 vacancies which may be filled from Competition IRC265817 was 566.

4. The breakdown of the 566 vacancies which may be filled from Competition IRC265817, by areas set out in the candidate information booklet, is shown in the table below

Area	Number of vacancies
Area 1 – Belfast	355
Area 2 - Derry/Londonderry	88
Area 3 – Craigavon	15
Area 4 – Coleraine	11
Area 5 – Omagh and Strabane	3
Area 6 – Newry & Banbridge	64
Area 7 – Ballymena	10
Area 8 – Cookstown & Magherafelt	8
Area 9 – Dungannon	7
Area 10 – Enniskillen	5
Grand Total	**566**

5. As at 12 December 2024 (the date of the request) it was anticipated that 2 of the vacancies detailed above would be filled by early January 2025. A further 240 of the vacancies detailed above had been sent to our service delivery partner HRConnect to progress to offer stage; whilst anticipated start dates were not known at that time it was expected that candidates would be taking up post from February 2025. The timescales for the remaining vacancies to be filled are not known at this time.