

FOI DOF/2024-0559

Request

Follow on request from DOF/2024-0454:

In addition, the department states that Proctoring checks took place in advance of tests and that online monitoring via webcams took place but failed in their response to detail how the department facilitated applications for applicants who did not possess such equipment and how this information was relayed to potential applicants before application. Were there other methods of application available to such applicants? If so, where is the document that advises them of this?

DoF Response

I can confirm the department holds the information requested.

There were other methods of application available to such applicants. Applicants were advised in the Candidate Information Booklet (CIB) that hard copy application packs were available on request. The CIB is attached at Annex B.

To clarify also, proctoring checks took place throughout the tests. Candidates were advised in the CIB that if they had any queries regarding the competition process, they should contact HRConnect (Contact details for Email, Telephone, Fax and Address were included).

The CIB also provided the following general guidance for candidates in relation to seeking help with their application:

‘HELP WITH MAKING YOUR APPLICATION’

You can get advice or assistance with making an application from your local Jobs and Benefits Office - contact details are available on NIDirect.

The Careers Service provides an impartial, all-age careers information, advice and guidance service, to help young people and adults make informed choices about their future career paths. You can contact one of the Careers Service’s professionally qualified Careers Advisors at Careers Service.

You can also get advice or assistance from local disability employment organisations. To find out more about local disability employment organisations contact Northern Ireland Union of Supported Employment (NIUSE), an umbrella group for individuals and organisations promoting opportunities for people with disabilities to access and maintain employment, (email info@niuse.org.uk, tel. 0044 (0)28 71 377709.)’