

FOI DOF/2025-0044

Request

Subject: IRC304959 - Grade 6 - Climate Change, Science and Innovation (Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA))

Can you answer the following:

1. How many applied for this competition
2. How many candidates were internal
3. How many candidates were external
4. How many candidates for 2&3 were invited to interview
5. How many candidates passed the interview
6. Off those that passed how many were internal and how many external.
7. How many vacancies are being filled.
8. If over and above the five in the original competition, how many and which Departments.

DoF Response

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

1. 92 candidates applied for this competition.
2. 63 candidates were internal.
3. 29 candidates were external.
4. 39 internal candidates were invited to interview. 10 external candidates were invited to interview.
5. At the date of request the interview stage has not completed. It is not possible therefore to state how many candidates passed the interview.

6. At the date of request the interview stage has not completed. It is not possible therefore to state how many internal candidates and external candidates passed.
7. & 8. Details of the total vacancies 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 December 2024, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 8 vacancies which may be filled from Competition IRC304959. All vacancies are in DAERA.