

FOI DOF/2025-0045

Request

I would like to make an FOI request for the breakdown, by Department, for the following information:

1. Current number of G7 posts being filled by temporarily promoted G7s.
2. Current number of vacant G7 posts.
3. Current number of G7 posts filled by agency staff.
4. Current number of declared G7 vacancies for forthcoming NICS G7 trawl competition.

DoF Response

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

1. The management and recording of temporary promotions are the responsibility of individual business areas in Departments. Temporary promotions can be for several different business reasons, such as covering vacant posts, special exercises etc.

The table below provides a breakdown by Department of the number of staff on temporary promotion to Grade 7 (and analogous grades), as at month end December 2024 (the most recent figures available at the time of request).

Department	No. of Staff on TP to G7
DAERA	138
DE	15
DfC	84
DfE	41
DfI	41
DoF	60
DoH	22
DOJ	41
PPS	5
TEO	26
Total	473

Source: HRConnect Month End December 2024

- 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 December 2024, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 150 General Service Grade 7 vacancies and 83 Non-General Service Grade 7 vacancies.

The breakdown for Department is as follows:

G7 General Service	
Department	Number of Vacancies
DAERA	38
DE	2
DfC	47
DfE	15
DfI	8
DoF	22
DOJ	10
TEO	8
Grand Total	150

G7 Non-General Service	
Department	Number of Vacancies
DAERA	40
DE	1
DfC	2
DfE	6
DfI	18
DoF	8
DOJ	6
TEO	2
Grand Total	83

- The number of Grade 7 (and analogous grade) posts filled by Recruitment Agency Workers, by Department, as at month end December 2024 (the most recent figures available at the time of request) is shown in the table below.

Department	No. of Agency Staff
DoF	9
DoH	4
DoJ	10
TEO	2
Total	25

Source: NICSHR Clerical Tracker

4. Of the 150 General Service Grade 7 vacancies at the end of December 2024, there were 73 which may be filled from NICS General Service Grade 7 competition IRC306697.

The breakdown for Department is as follows:

G7 General Service – Competition IRC306697	
Department	Number of Vacancies
DAERA	28
DE	2
DfC	16
DfE	2
DfI	5
DoF	5
DOJ	9
TEO	6
Grand Total	73