ANNEX A

FOI DOF/2025-0401

Request

Re: G7 competition (IRC306697):

1. How many people were successful following interview for the G7 competition (IRC306697)?

2. How many Grade 7 vacancies are there?

3. Will an initial list be issued and if so, how many names will be listed?

4. What is the process where a successful candidate is not on the initial list?

5. Will all successful candidates be offered a G7 position dependent on when posts become available?

6. If the list lasts for only two years will it be extended if all successful candidates have not been posted? and if not will successful candidates be carried over to a new list?

7. Is there the possibility that a successful candidate may never be posted depending on merit score order and timescale of lists?

8. In addition to the Grade 7 vacancies, how may Grade 6 vacancies are there to be filled from the Grade 6 competition (IRC306699)?

DoF Response

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

1. This information is exempt under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 applies to information that is already reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and the department is not required to consider whether the public interest favours disclosure of this information. For ease of reference, you can find it at the following link: https://irecruit-ext.hrconnect.nigov.net/resources/documents/g/7/-/g7-general-faqs-to-satisfy-fois---march-2025.pdf

2. 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 June 2025, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 199 Grade 7 vacancies which may be filled from Trawl Competition IRC306697.

3. The information requested is being withheld under Section 22 of the FOI Act as it is intended for future publication. By applying Section 22 Exemption of the FOI Act, we are required to carry out a Public Interest Test. This can be found attached as a separate document (Annex B).

4. This information is exempt under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 applies to information that is already reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and the department is not required to consider whether the public interest favours disclosure of this information. For ease of reference, you can find it at section 10 here: https://nics.service-now.com/kb?sys_kb_id=27a07f9283d3d6d05cc75520ceaad325&sysparm_article=KB0010433&id=kb_article_view

5. See response to Q4 above.

6. See response to Q4 above.

7. This information is not held at this time.

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 June 2025, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 29 Grade 6 vacancies which may be filled from Trawl Competition IRC306699.