

FOI DOF/2025-0670

Request

1. Since 01 January 2022 how many partial retirement applications at Deputy Principal & Grade 7 levels have been made in the Department for Communities?
2. How many of the above applications were successful? Please provide a breakdown of how these successful applications were accommodated i.e. job-sharing, job-reshaping (different roles combined and/or adjusted) or any other manner?
3. How many were rejected? Please provide a breakdown of reasons why applications were rejected?
4. Since 01 January 2022 how many partial retirement applications at Deputy Principal & Grade 7 levels were made in the Department for Communities and referred in the application as being made under Employment (NI) Order 2002 as a result of caring responsibilities?
5. How many applications as detailed in Point 4 above were successful?
6. How many applications as detailed in Point 4 above were rejected?

DoF Response

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

1. Between 1 January 2022 until 31 October 2025 (the most recent data available at the time of request) a total of 30 applications for partial retirement were submitted within DfC by staff at Grade 7 and Deputy Principal levels.
2. All 30 applications submitted during the specified period were approved. The Department of Finance does not hold centrally detail on how applications were accommodated as this is the responsibility of Departmental Line Management based on business requirements. Relevant policy guidance can be found in the [NICS Staff Handbook](#), section [3:10 Alternative Working Patterns](#).
3. Based on records held centrally by DoF, no Grade 7 or Deputy Principal applications for partial retirement at DfC were rejected between 1 January 2022 and 31 October 2025.

4. Of the 30 applications submitted, 12 indicated they were being made under the Employment (NI) Order 2022 due to caring responsibilities. Of the remaining 18 applications, 15 indicated they did not have caring responsibilities, and (in accordance with policy) 3 applications still reside with the Employee/Department pending completion of the Partial Retirement process.
5. In respect to Point 4, all 12 applications made under the Employment (NI) Order 2022 were approved.
6. In respect to Point 4, no applications made under the Employment (NI) Order 2022 were rejected.