

## FOI DOF/2025-0654

**Request**

Executive Officer 2 competition IRC317873

1. The total number of candidates who applied for the competition.
2. The number of candidates who successfully passed all three tests.
3. How many candidates achieved results within each overall score range (e.g., above average, average, below average, etc.).
4. The overall highest and lowest test scores obtained.
5. The number of posts currently available, and whether further appointments are expected to be made from this competition in the near future.
6. I would appreciate any details you are able to share regarding the competition statistics or my relative ranking to help me understand my position in the process.

**DoF Response**

I can confirm the Department holds the information requested.

1-2. 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 C). The information will be available in the near future.

3. See table below -

<b>Score Range</b>	<b>Total</b>
Well above average	237
Above average	1059
Average	5748
Below average	940
Well below average	387
Not completed all tests	364
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8735</b>

4. The overall highest score obtained – 157.94. The overall lowest score obtained – 21.18.

5. There are approximately 500 vacancies. This competition will be open for two years and should further vacancies arise we may be taking through another phase of candidates.

6. The score awarded for each individual test is calculated by computer and the final score for each is presented using the same scale, so you can compare how you have done on each of your tests. The average score on each test is 100.

## Annex B - Internal Reviews

An Internal Review request examines the response based on applied exemptions, search adequacy, or response timeliness.

### It is not the following, which will be treated as specified:

- Questions asking for clarification on information provided: Will be treated as part of the original FOI request.
- Additional questions about the information in the response: Will be treated as a new FOI request.
- Questions about the subject not related to the original request: Will be treated as new FOI request.
- Questions regarding how a service operates or why a decision was made: Will be treated as normal business and responded to accordingly.
- Complaints or concerns raised in response to information provided: Will be treated in line with relevant complaints procedure.

### To make an Internal Review request:

- **Clearly state:** That you want an internal review of a previous FOI response and provide the necessary details.
- **Follow the timeline:** Be sure to submit your request within 40 working days of receiving the original response. If the Department has not responded at all, you have 40 working days after the original 20-day response period has passed.
- **Wait for a response:** The review is typically completed within 20 working days but can take up to 40 working days in exceptional circumstances. The Department should inform you of any delays.

### What the review includes

- A fresh decision based on a reconsideration of all relevant factors.
- An assessment of whether the request was handled correctly and if exemptions were applied appropriately.
- The review will be conducted by someone who was not involved in the original decision.

**If you wish to request an internal review, please email [foi@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@finance-ni.gov.uk) or write to FOI/EIR Team, Department of Finance, 2nd Floor, Craigantlet Buildings, Stoney Road, Belfast, BT4 3SX.**