

FOI DOF/2025-0673

Request

- 1) How many candidates applied for the Curatorial E role at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)?
- 2) How many candidates successfully applied for the Curatorial E role and were subsequently offered an interview?
- 3) Upon completion of the interview process, how many candidates passed the interview process?
- 4) How many vacancies are available and how many have been filled thus far?
- 5) How many of the applicants were prior or current employees at the Northern Ireland Civil Service?
- 6) Can a List be provided of the scores of each candidate from highest to lowest at the interview for the Curatorial E role?
- 7) In this List, can it be stated which candidates were prior or current employees within the NICS?
- 8) Also, in this List, can it be stated which candidates declared themselves to have a disability?

DoF Response

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

1. Information you have requested is held by the Department but is exempt under section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 exempts information if this information is 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. This information can be found at [FOI DOF/2025-0506 Curatorial E & F staff employed at PRONI; applications for competition IRC315811](#)
2. There were 29 candidates who applied for the Curatorial E role and were subsequently offered an interview.
3. There were 20 candidates who passed the interview process.
4. 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 October 2025, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing one vacancy which may be filled from competition IRC315811.

At the date of the request 4 vacancies had been filled from competition IRC315811.

5. There were 23 applicants who were current employees of the Northern Ireland Civil Service. There were no applicants who were prior employees of the Northern Ireland Civil Service.
6. 7. & 8. Please find below a list of interview scores of each candidate from highest to lowest stating which candidates were prior or current employees within the NICS and which candidates declared themselves to have a disability:

Assessment Score	Prior/Current Employee	Declared Disability
88.00	Current	
85.00	Current	
82.00	Current	
81.00		
78.00	Current	
75.50	Current	
75.00	Current	
74.00	Current	
73.50	Current	
73.25		
73.00		Yes
69.50		
69.00	Current	
68.50		
68.00	Current	
67.00		
66.00	Current	
65.00		
64.00		
60.00	Current	
56.00		
55.00	Current	Yes
53.00		Yes
52.00		
51.00		Yes
50.00		
45.00		
44.00		
Did Not Attend		

Please note there were no prior employees of the Northern Ireland Civil Service who applied for the competition.

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 or write to FOI/EIR Team, Department of Finance, 2nd Floor, Craigantlet Buildings, Stoney Road, Belfast, BT4 3SX.