

Request

Please provide the following:

- A. The present number of registered general vacancies per grade and department.
- B. The current amount of remaining candidates on general service lists per grade.
- C. The current number of temporary promotions broken down by department, grade, and temporary promotion reason.
- D.1. Number of temporary promotions broken down by department, grade and the amount broken down by length of post in TP by the following periods: up to 3 months, 3-6 months, 6-9 months, 9-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, 24-36 months, 36-48 months, 2-3 years, 3-4 years, 4-5 years, 6-7 years, 8-9 years, 9-10 years, 10+ years.
- D.2. Based on the results from D.1., for TPs 18 months onwards, using the same period lengths as D.1., please provide the reason type for TP broken down by department and by grade.

DoF response

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

- A. 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 NICS HR to initiate the process to fill the post. NICS HR 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 February 2026, the most recent figures available at time of the request, NICS HR was managing a caseload of 3963 General Service vacancies. The breakdown of the vacancies by grade and department is shown in the table below.

	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	DfI	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
SCS	2		2	1		4	2	7		3	21
G6	6		3		5	5	4	2	1		26
G7	35	5	20	12	14	19	11	11		10	137
DP	85	24	52	44	28	43	16	27	4	6	329
SO	112	29	70	38	34	35	15	39		16	388
EO1	43	7	103	7	17	27	3	21	5	1	234
EO2	66	13	614	24	36	39	8	46	10	9	865
AO	80	9	1210	17	37	121	1	110	15	8	1608
AA	54		150	18	74	45		7	5	2	355
Total	483	87	2224	161	245	338	60	270	40	55	3963

B. As at the end of February 2026, the most recent figures available at time of the request, the number of remaining candidates available for placement on general service merit lists was 2753. The breakdown by grade is shown in the table below.

Grade	Number of applicants available for placement
SCS	17
G6	83
G7	88
DP	28
SO	44
EO1	98
EO2	1197
AO	1157
AA	41
Grand Total	2753

C. 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 sets out the total number of NICS staff temporarily promoted to General Service Grades, by Department, TP Grade, and Reason for TP, as at the end of February 2026, the latest data available at the time of the request.

DEPARTMENT / TP GRADE	TEMPORARY PROMOTION REASON				TOTAL
	Vacant Post	Chain	Special Exercise	Other	
DAERA	164	100	24	31	319
G5	1	2			3
G6	6	1	2	2	11
G7	31	10	4	3	48
DP	55	25	10	11	101

DEPARTMENT / TP GRADE	TEMPORARY PROMOTION REASON				TOTAL
	Vacant Post	Chain	Special Exercise	Other	
SO	34	25	3	7	69
EO1	12	18	3	2	35
EO2	24	18		5	47
AO	1	1	2	1	5
DE	53	51	11	16	131
G3	2				2
G5	3	1	1	1	6
G6	4	1	2	1	8
G7	8	7	5	4	24
DP	12	12	2	3	29
SO	15	11	1		27
EO1	5	8		3	16
EO2	3	8		3	14
AO	1	3		1	5
DfC	640	402	198	131	1,371
G3	3				3
G5	6	2	4	1	13
G6	6	8	2	1	17
G7	16	13	4	6	39
DP	46	49	9	11	115
SO	59	95	10	22	186
EO1	115	117	29	32	293
EO2	385	118	140	57	700
AO	4			1	5
DfE	48	50	32	26	156
G3	1				1
G5	1		1	3	5
G6	1		1		2
G7	4		4		8
DP	17	11	15	6	49
SO	11	16	4	12	43
EO1	9	11	3	1	24
EO2	4	11	4	4	23
AO		1			1
DfI	105	53	18	17	193
G2		1			1
G3	1			1	2
G5	1	3			4
G6	1		3		4
G7	10	4	2	2	18
DP	32	9	3		44
SO	21	9	3	3	36
EO1	11	14	5	5	35
EO2	20	12	2	5	39
AO	8	1		1	10

DEPARTMENT / TP GRADE	TEMPORARY PROMOTION REASON				TOTAL
	Vacant Post	Chain	Special Exercise	Other	
DoF	98	95	48	42	283
G3	1				1
G5	4	1	1		6
G6	3		1		4
G7	11	8	6	5	30
DP	21	15	11	12	59
SO	20	21	9	8	58
EO1	18	26	7	5	56
EO2	20	24	12	11	67
AO			1	1	2
DoH	47	22	13	10	92
G5	1	1			2
G6	5		1		6
G7	6	1	4	1	12
DP	17	2	3	3	25
SO	14	10	2	3	29
EO1	3	4	3	2	12
EO2	1	4		1	6
DOJ	159	159	42	23	383
G5	4	1		1	6
G6	9	5	5	1	20
G7	10	8	5	2	25
DP	34	24	7	4	69
SO	40	39	12	5	96
EO1	28	47	4	5	84
EO2	33	35	6	4	78
AO	1		3	1	5
PPS	17	13	6	7	43
G5				1	1
G6	1				1
DP	1	1	1		3
SO	1		1	1	3
EO1	3	2	1	1	7
EO2	3	7	2	3	15
AO	8	3	1	1	13
TEO	39	22	2	8	71
G2				1	1
G5	6				6
G7	5	5	2		12
DP	14	6		2	22
SO	7	4		2	13
EO1	3	5		2	10
EO2	4	2		1	7
Grand Total	1,370	967	394	311	3,042

Source: HRConnect & COMPASS Month End February 2026

DEPARTMENT / TP GRADE	TEMPORARY PROMOTION REASON				TOTAL
	Vacant Post	Chain	Special Exercise	Other	

Note: Figures reflect General Service Permanent and Fixed Term Casual staff only, except for those in HSENI, Crown Solicitor Office, and AGNI.

D.1. and D.2.

The table below sets out the total number of NICS staff temporarily promoted to General Service Grades, by Department, TP Grade, TP Reason and Duration (Months OR Years), as at the end of February 2026, the latest data available at the time of the request.

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
DAERA	24	42	31	38	43	39	49	37	9	5	2					319
Vacant Post	13	20	16	22	17	21	25	23	7							164
G5		1														1
G6	1	2	1	1		1										6
G7		1	2	6	3	5	6	6	2							31
DP	5	10	7	8	3	7	7	8								55
SO	2	2	6	2	7	1	7	4	3							34
EO1	3	1		1	2	2	1	1	1							12
EO2	2	3		4	2	5	3	4	1							24
AO							1									1
Chain	6	9	12	13	15	13	17	12		2	1					100
G5				1	1											2
G6					1											1
G7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1						10
DP	1	2	3	3	3	2	5	4		1	1					25
SO	2	3	3	5	4	5	2	1								25
EO1	1	1	2	2	2	4	5	1								18
EO2	1	2	3	1	3	1	4	3								18
AO								1								1
Special Exercise	2	2	2	1	7		4	2	1	2	1					24
G6		1					1									2
G7			1		1		1	1								4

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Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
G7	1		1	3			1			1						7
DP		2	4	3	2				1							12
SO			1	1	2	2		2	2	1						11
EO1	1	3	1	1	1			1								8
EO2		4			4											8
AO		2									1					3
Special Exercise	2	2	1	1	1	2	2									11
G5			1													1
G6	1	1														2
G7	1	1		1		1	1									5
DP					1		1									2
SO						1										1
Other		4	3	4	1	3				1						16
G5			1													1
G6			1													1
G7			1	1		1				1						4
DP		2				1										3
EO1				2	1											3
EO2		1		1		1										3
AO		1														1
DfC	156	249	162	161	218	140	137	59	46	28	8	2		4	1	1,371
Vacant Post	78	115	55	72	116	70	68	28	16	14	2	1		4	1	640
G3	2		1													3
G5			1		2	1	2									6
G6			1			2	3									6
G7	2	2	1	1	1	2	3		2	2						16

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
DP	4	12	6	5	7	3	2	2	2	2	1					46
SO	8	12	8	11	7	5	4	4								59
EO1	17	23	9	12	24	8	10	6	3	2					1	115
EO2	45	66	28	43	75	48	43	16	8	8	1			4		385
AO						1	1		1			1				4
Chain	40	66	45	43	70	46	39	24	20	7	2					402
G5	1								1							2
G6	1	3			1	2			1							8
G7	2		2		5	3			1							13
DP	3	6	3	5	5	9	8	1	7	1	1					49
SO	6	9	13	13	14	14	13	8	4	1						95
EO1	14	23	18	14	22	10	3	8	3	1	1					117
EO2	13	25	9	11	23	8	15	7	3	4						118
Special Exercise	17	22	50	32	21	17	23	3	5	5	2	1				198
G5	2		1	1												4
G6		1	1													2
G7	1		1		1					1						4
DP		1		4			1	1	1			1				9
SO		1	1	3	1	1	2				1					10
EO1	5	2	9	3	5	1	2		1	1						29
EO2	9	17	37	21	14	15	18	2	3	3	1					140
Other	21	46	12	14	11	7	7	4	5	2	2					131
G5						1										1
G6						1										1
G7	2						1	1	1	1						6
DP	1	4	1	1		1	1	1	1							11

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
SO	4	10	1	1	4		1		1							22
EO1	5	7	4	7	2	1	3	1		1	1					32
EO2	9	25	6	5	4	3	1	1	2		1					57
AO					1											1
DfE	15	26	24	26	23	16	16	5	2	1	1	1				156
Vacant Post	5	9	7	8	7	5	5		1		1					48
G3	1															1
G5									1							1
G6							1									1
G7	1	1					1				1					4
DP	2	3	4	4	3		1									17
SO		3	2	1	2	2	1									11
EO1		1	1	2	2	2	1									9
EO2	1	1		1		1										4
Chain	6	1	7	12	10	7	4	2		1						50
DP					6	1	3			1						11
SO	1		4	5	2	3	1									16
EO1	2	1	2	4	1	1										11
EO2	3		1	3	1	2		1								11
AO								1								1
Special Exercise	2	9	5	2	1	3	6	2	1			1				32
G5								1								1
G6	1															1
G7		1					2					1				4
DP	1	7	2		1	2	2									15
SO		1				1	1		1							4

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
EO1				2				1								3
EO2			3				1									4
Other	2	7	5	4	5	1	1	1								26
G5		2			1											3
DP	1	2		2	1											6
SO	1	3	3		2	1	1	1								12
EO1			1													1
EO2			1	2	1											4
Dfl	46	40	17	18	27	18	9	14	2	1	1					193
Vacant Post	24	17	10	9	21	12	4	6		1	1					105
G3		1														1
G5								1								1
G6								1								1
G7	2	2	1	2	3											10
DP	8	10	3	2	5	3	1									32
SO	4	3	2	3	4	1	1	3								21
EO1	3		2	1	3	1	1									11
EO2	6	1	2	1	3	3	1	1		1	1					20
AO	1				3	4										8
Chain	13	12	5	4	3	5	3	6	2							53
G2	1															1
G5	1				1			1								3
G7	2	1				1										4
DP	1		3	1		2	1	1								9
SO		2	2	1	1	1	1	1								9
EO1	3	5		2	1	1		2								14

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Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
G6					1	1	2	1								5
G7					2				3						1	6
DP	3	2		3	2	1	2		3		1					17
SO	1		2	3	4	1	1	1				1				14
EO1			1	1						1						3
EO2				1												1
Chain	4		2	5	3	1	1	1	2	1		2				22
G5				1												1
G7	1															1
DP				1								1				2
SO	2		2	1	1		1	1	1	1						10
EO1				1	2							1				4
EO2	1			1		1			1							4
Special Exercise		1	1	1	1	2	2	1		2	1				1	13
G6							1									1
G7		1			1					2						4
DP			1			1					1					3
SO						1		1								2
EO1				1			1								1	3
Other	1	1	2	3	2	1										10
G7	1															1
DP			2	1												3
SO				1	1	1										3
EO1		1			1											2
EO2				1												1
DOJ	33	65	37	53	44	33	39	35	18	12	11	3				383

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
Vacant Post	18	33	18	24	12	12	15	12	8	6		1				159
G5					1	1		1	1							4
G6	1		2	2				2		1		1				9
G7	1			3		2	2	1	1							10
DP	4	10	4	5	3		4	1	2	1						34
SO	6	11	6	4	3	4	3	2	1							40
EO1	3	4	3	7	1	1	3	1	2	3						28
EO2	3	8	3	3	4	4	3	3	1	1						33
AO								1								1
Chain	9	24	17	21	21	19	16	17	4	3	8					159
G5								1								1
G6			1			1	2				1					5
G7	1		1			1		4			1					8
DP	1	2	2	6	1	5	2	2		1	2					24
SO	3	8	1	9	7	4	1	2	3		1					39
EO1	1	8	6	1	9	5	7	6		2	2					47
EO2	3	6	6	5	4	3	4	2	1		1					35
Special Exercise	3	4	1	5	6	1	5	4	5	3	3	2				42
G6			1		1		1		1		1					5
G7		1		1	1	1				1						5
DP		2			1				1	2		1				7
SO	2	1		4	2			1			1	1				12
EO1							2	1			1					4
EO2	1				1		1		3							6
AO							1	2								3
Other	3	4	1	3	5	1	3	2	1							23

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[illegible]

Department / TP Grade	TP Duration (Months)						TP Duration (Years)									Total
	< 3	3 to <6	6 to <9	9 to <12	12 to <18	18 to <24	2 to <3	3 to <4	4 to <5	5 to <6	6 to <7	7 to <8	8 to <9	9 to <10	10+	
SO	1	1														2
EO1			1				1									2
EO2				1												1
Grand Total	349	529	330	394	440	300	304	185	98	63	33	10		4	3	3,042

Source: HRConnect & COMPASS Month End February 2026

Note: There are no staff on TP within the 8 to <9 year range.

Figures reflect General Service Permanent and Fixed Term Casual staff only, except for those in HSENI, Crown Solicitor Office, and AGNI.

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.