

FOI DOF/2026-0215

Request

RE: EO2 competition - IRC 317873

1. The number of those successfully placed on the merit list, what is the breakdown between those who elected AWP, SWP or Both as their choice of working pattern.
2. How many on the merit list have selected Area 2 - Derry/Londonderry, Ballykelly, Limavady as their first preference.
3. Of the 90 General Service EO2 vacancies within Area 2, as of Feb 2026 released in previous F.O.I releases, how many if these fall within the AWP and SWP pattern.
4. If possible, what is the lowest merit position someone has placed that has selected the Area 2 options on the AWP pattern.

Clarification received 05/05/26

DoF/2026-0113 related to EO2 vacancies in February 2026 was the previous F.O.I that I was referring to in Q3 of my request.

As for the AWP/SWP breakdown, after further consideration I would like the information for all towns mentioned in the FOI DoF/2026-0113.

To clarify further could all information be the current and most up to date position.

DoF response

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

1. Of the 1147 successful candidates placed on the EO2 merit list (IRC317873) 643 selected Standard Working Pattern only, 34 selected Alternative Working Pattern only and 470 selected both working patterns.
2. A total of 254 successful candidates selected Area 2 (Derry/Londonderry, Ballykelly, Limavady) as a locational preference. All locations selected by a candidate carry equal weight and NICSHR does not distinguish between first, second or third preferences.
3. 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 April 2026, (the most recent figures available at the time clarification was received), NICS HR was managing a caseload of 100 EO2 vacancies in Strabane, Derry/Londonderry, Omagh, Ballykelly and Limavady which may be filled from competition IRC317873. The table below gives the breakdown of vacancies by AWP/SWP.

Working Pattern	Number of vacancies
Permanent – full time (AWP)	34
Permanent – full time (SWP)	66
Grand Total	100

4. The lowest merit position held by a candidate who selected a preference for Area 2 and Alternative Working Pattern is 1138.