

FOI DOF/2026-0379

Request

Re: competition IRC317873 – EO2

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information in relation to the current EO2 recruitment competition (IRC317873) for Area 1 (Belfast).

As of the date this request is answered, please provide:

1. The total number of EO2 vacancies in Area 1 (Belfast) that remain to be filled from this competition.
2. A breakdown of those outstanding vacancies by department.
3. Whether any further vacancy requests from departments are expected to be filled from the current Area 1 (Belfast) merit list.

DoF response

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

1. 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 June 2026, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICS HR was managing a caseload of 516 vacancies based in Area 1 (Belfast) which may be filled from competition IRC317873.

2. The breakdown by department is shown in the table below

Department	Number of vacancies
DAERA	42
DE	9
DfC	316
DfE	13

Department	Number of vacancies
Dfl	29
DoF	31
DoH	10
DoJ	45
PPS	10
TEO	11
Grand Total	516

- Information given at question 2 represents vacancy caseload as at the end of June 2026 (the most recent figures available at the date of the request). At this time it is not known if further vacancies will be declared to NICSHR.