

FOI DOF/2026-0385

Request

Re: DP competition IRC313542.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. During the original sifting phase, how many individuals were involved in carrying out the initial sift for each application?
2. Was this number consistent for every application? In other words, were the same number of individuals involved in the decision-making process for every application submitted?
3. How was the sifting process conducted? Specifically, was it:
 - carried out collaboratively with assessors working together in the same room;
 - conducted virtually with assessors working together remotely; or
 - completed independently by assessors working in isolation before reaching a decision?
4. Where a candidate requested a review or appeal of their sift outcome, was the review undertaken by the same individual(s) who conducted the original sift, or was it carried out by different individual(s) who had no involvement in the original decision?
5. What grades of staff were involved in:
 - carrying out the original sift; and
 - reviewing appeals or requests for reconsideration?
6. What was the minimum grade required to:
 - conduct the original sift; and
 - review an appeal or reconsideration request?

DoF response

I can confirm the department holds the information requested.

1. This competition used one sift panel comprising of ten panel members.
2. The number was consistent for each application.
3. Each panel member reviewed batches of applications based on their availability and worked in collaboration with the other members. The

process included a final review of failed applications to ensure fair and consistent decisions were made throughout.

4. The review was carried out by a minimum of 2 individuals who were involved initially.
5. 4 x Grade 7s and 6 x DPs were involved in the original sift. The appeals were considered by as a minimum 1 x Grade 7 and 1 x DP who were in the initial sift panel.
6. See response to question 5 above.