

## Annex C

### REASONS FOR APPLYING SECTION 22 EXEMPTION

| Ref No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | DOF/2026-0443                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
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| Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Exemption applied                                 | Reasons for Disclosure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Reasons for Non Disclosure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <p><b>RE: DP competition IRC313542</b></p> <p>1. How many candidates progressed to interview in the first stage of the competition?</p> <p>4. How many interviewees were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current NICS employees; and</li> <li>• Not currently employed by NICS?</li> </ul> <p>5. How many successful candidates were current NICS employees?</p> <p>6. What was the gender breakdown (male/female/other, if recorded) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviewed candidates; and</li> <li>• Successful candidates?</li> </ul> | <p>Section 22 Intended for future publication</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To show compliance with the FOI Act by disclosing information held by the Department as a Public Authority;</li> <li>• There is a general public interest in the accountability, openness and transparency of government, and to promote public understanding.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information regarding each stage of this recruitment competition will be published in due course on OpenDataNI.</li> <li>• As the information requested is of interest to the wider NICS, it is important that it can be accessed by all interested parties at the same time, it should be equally available to all, not given to some people before others</li> <li>• Publishing the information at this stage would require staff to spend time on accelerating publication rather than other activities in the public interest</li> </ul> |  |

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| <p>7. What was the age profile of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interviewed candidates;</li><li>and</li><li>• Successful candidates?</li></ul> <p>Please provide this information in age bands used by the organisation (for example, under 25, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55+).</p>                                         |  |  |  |
| <p>In balancing where the public interest lies, the Department contends that public interest considerations against disclosure are predominant, and the public interest is better served by non-disclosure of the of the information at this time.</p> <p>Signed: John Cuthbert <span style="float: right;">Date: 10/08/26</span></p> |  |  |  |