Public Interest Test
REASONS FOR APPLYING SECTION 22 EXEMPTION

Ref No.	FOI/2026-0498

Information	**Exemption Applied**	**Reasons for Disclosure**	**Reasons for Non-Disclosure**
6. Please provide the total number of: • Applicants to the Staff Officer 2026 competition; • Applicants who declared eligibility under the Guaranteed Interview Scheme; • GIS applicants who achieved the minimum qualifying assessment score; • GIS applicants invited to interview; • GIS applicants not invited to interview.	Section 22 Intended for future publication	• To show compliance with the FOI Act by disclosing information held by the Department as a Public Authority; • Disclosure would demonstrate a fair and transparent application and interview process. • There is a general public interest in the accountability, openness and transparency of government, and to promote public understanding.	• 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 • Publishing the information at this stage would require staff to spend time on accelerating publication rather than other activities in the public interest

In balancing where the public interest lies, the Department has considered all the relevant factors in the public interest test and has reached the conclusion that the benefit to the public in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in releasing the information requested, as a result of the prejudices and losses that would potentially affect the Department.

DECISION MAKER: John Cuthbert **DATE: 08/09/2026**