

FOI DOF/2022-0328

Request

IRC277837 – Deputy Principal Competition

Could you advise:

1. Whether the responses were marked by a human or a computer
2. What moderation was carried out to standardise marking
3. What avenues are open to candidates to have their responses reviewed
4. How many/what percentage of applicants who proceeded to the sift were rejected at this stage

DoF Response

I can confirm the department holds the information requested.

1. For the eligibility sift stage of the competition, responses to eligibility criteria provided by applicants on their application form were considered by a selection panel and not marked by computer.
2. The eligibility sift selection panel considered applicants' anonymised application form responses against the eligibility criteria. The process included a final review of failed applications by the sift selection panel to ensure consistent decisions were made.
3. Candidates may request a review of their eligibility sift decision by contacting HRConnect. This review is undertaken by the eligibility sift selection panel.
4. The information requested is being withheld as it is exempt under section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 22(1) protects information intended for future publication. Section 22 is a qualified exemption and I have considered whether the balance of the public interest favours maintaining the exemption in section 22(1) or disclosing the information. The Public Interest Test can be found attached as a separate document.

The data for this competition will be published upon completion of each stage of the selection process on OpenDataNI:

<https://www.opendatani.gov.uk/organization/nics-hr>