

FOI DOF/2024-0177

Request

Re: Trainee Careers Adviser Competition IRC296918

Under the FOI could you forward me this information if you do hold it.

1. The number of working days per grade devoted to the selection process, including number of days interviewing.
2. The cost of the recruitment competition.
3. Could you also confirm what is recommended grade (s) of the recruitment panel for an Executive Officer 2 panel i.e. the chairperson and 2 panel members?

DoF Response

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

1. The number of working days per grade devoted to the selection process is not held. The number of working days interviewing per grade for all panels was as follows:
 - Deputy Principal – 55 days
 - Staff Officer – 44 days
2. This information is being withheld because it is exempt under section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 43(2) protects information which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). The disclosure of this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interest of the tenderer in this commercial activity. The application of Section 43(2) in this case requires a Public Interest Test (PIT) to be carried out, which can be found attached separately (Annex B). In carrying out the PIT the department contends that disclosure of the requested material would not be in the public interest.
3. Ideally the panel members should be one grade above the grade to be recruited with the chairperson at least two grades above. Therefore, the recommended grade for the recruitment panel for the Executive Officer 2 grade is one Staff Officer (Chair) and two x Executive Officer 1 (Panel Members).