FOI DOF/2024-0407

Request

- 1. Please detail the total number of successful applicants who have passed IRC275969 SO interviews and are currently on a merit list for said competition.
- 2. Please provide the total number of current vacancies at SO grade, both General service and non-general service. Please also ensure that these figures account for the vacancy declaration exercise that was completed 4/9/24.
- 3. Please provide a breakdown of the general service SO vacancies by area and department. I am aware that SO grade should be willing to travel across NI however as per previous FOI's a breakdown by area would be appreciated.
- 4. Please let me know how many vacancies that you plan to fill from IRC275969 over the lifetime of the competition (including the declared vacancies post 4/9/24). Or if you expect to exhaust the list of successful candidates please state so. Alternatively, if you are planning on moving through the list in tranches, please detail numbers on each tranche.
- 5. In terms of timescales please let me know how long you estimate for successful candidates of IRC275969 to be placed.
- 6. Will / can successful candidates of IRC275969 be used to fill the non-general service vacancies?

Clarification received 01/10/2024

- A. In relation to question 2 can you clarify if you are asking for details of all Staff Officer General Service vacancies and/or the Staff Officer General Service vacancies which it is intended to fill from Competition IRC275969?
 - Response Please provide all Staff Officer General Service vacancies and vacancies which it is intended to fill from Competition IRC275969.
- B. In relation to question 3 Staff Officer General service vacancies are not categorised by area; can you confirm if you are content to receive details of vacancies broken down by Department and Town and as above if you wish this information to relate to all Staff Officer General Service vacancies and/or the Staff Officer General Service vacancies which it is intended to fill from Competition IRC275969?

Response - I am content for this information to be broken down by Department and Town. Please provide both all Staff Officer General Service

vacancies and the Staff Officer General Service vacancies which it is intended to fill from Competition IRC275969

DoF Response

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

- 1. There are currently 245 successful applicants who have passed IRC275969 SO interviews and are currently on a merit list for this competition.
- 2. & 3. Details of the total vacancies in each department is not held centrally by Department of Finance. Each Civil Service department is responsible for managing its resources both financial and staff. Each department determines its individual workforce needs and is responsible for ensuring that any additional staffing resources are affordable. When a department identifies a vacancy that needs filled, the request is referred to NICSHR to initiate the process to fill the post. NICSHR liaises with all departments on an ongoing basis to seek to prioritise recruitment activity within allocated financial and staff resources.

As at the end of September 2024, (the most recent figures available at the date clarification of the request was received), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 313 Non General Service Staff Officer vacancies and 397 General Service Staff Officer vacancies of which 356 could be filled from Competition IRC275969. The breakdown of the vacancies by location and department is shown in the tables below.

Non General Service Staff Officer vacancies

Location/Town	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	Dfl	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
Antrim	3										3
Armagh	2										2
Ballykelly	4										4
Ballymena	2							1			3
Bangor		5				1					6
Belfast	38		15	15	94	46	1	15	2	4	230
Carrickfergus								5			5
Coleraine	1				1						2
Cookstown	1				8						9
Craigavon					2						2
Derry-											
Londonderry	1										1
Downpatrick	1										1
Enniskillen	7				1						8
Lisburn	25				2						27
Magherafelt	1										1

Location/Town	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	Dfl	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
Newry	2										2
Omagh	3				2						5
Strabane	2										2
Total	93	5	15	15	110	47	1	21	2	4	313

Total General Service Staff Officer vacancies

Location/Town	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	Dfl	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
Antrim	4										4
Armagh			1								1
Ballykelly	38										38
Ballymena			5								5
Bangor		14									14
Belfast	45		72	38	26	43	30	19	3	7	283
Carrickfergus								1			1
Coleraine			2					1			3
Cookstown	2				1						3
Craigavon					1						1
Derry-											
Londonderry	5	3	8			1					17
Downpatrick	7										7
Enniskillen	2										2
Lisburn	9		1			1		1			12
Newcastle			1								1
Newry			1								1
Newtownabbey			3								3
Newtownards			1								1
Total	112	17	95	38	28	45	30	22	3	7	397

General Service Staff Officer vacancies to be filled from Competition IRC275769

Location/Town	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	Dfl	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
Antrim	4										4
Armagh			1								1
Ballykelly	38										38
Ballymena			4								4
Bangor		14									14
Belfast	42		63	35	23	34	30	14	3	6	250
Coleraine			2					1			3
Cookstown	2				1						3
Craigavon					1						1
Derry-	5	3	6			1					15

Location/Town	DAERA	DE	DfC	DfE	Dfl	DoF	DoH	DOJ	PPS	TEO	Total
Londonderry											
Downpatrick	7										7
Enniskillen	2										2
Lisburn	7					1		1			9
Newcastle			1								1
Newry			1								1
Newtownabbey			2								2
Newtownards			1								1
Total	107	17	81	35	25	36	30	16	3	6	356

- 4. It is currently expected that the list of successful candidates will be exhausted before the competition closure date of 31 March 25.
- 5. As at 1 October 2024 (the date of clarification of the request), the timescales for successful candidates to be placed from IRC275969 were not known.
- 6. Non General service vacancies will not be filled by successful candidates from Competition IRC275969.