

03.16

I refer to your e-mail received in this office on 14 January 2016 made under the Freedom of Information Act, 2014 requesting copies of all representations made to the Public Appointments Service by elected representatives since 2014.

With regard to this, I have today made a decision on your request and I enclose the records as listed on the attached schedule.

Other than the records enclosed I have not discovered any other records relating to your query.

Please note the following points in relation to the decisions I have made:

1. I have not enclosed any personal information relating to candidates as I am claiming exemption under Section 37(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014 which provides as follows:-

"Subject to this section, a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if, in the opinion of the head, access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information (including personal information relating to a deceased individual)".

2. I also refer to Section 2 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which defines "personal information" as information about an identifiable individual that:

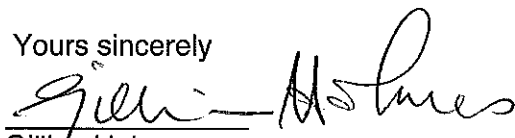
- (a) would, in the ordinary course of events, be known only to the individual or members of the family, or friends, of the individual, or
- (b) is held by an FOI body on the understanding that it would be treated by that body as confidential.

If you are not satisfied with the level of information provided in this letter, it is open to you to have your request for information internally reviewed by this office. Requests for internal review should be submitted in writing to Ms. Catherine Dobbins, Assistant Principal, F.O.I. Unit, Public Appointments Service, Chapter House, 26-30 Abbey Street Upper, Dublin 1. Such a request for review must be submitted **within four weeks** of receipt of this letter and must be accompanied by a **fee of €30**.

The Public Appointments Service must complete the internal review within three weeks and the review process must normally be completed before the appeal may be made to the Information Commissioner.

However, if you have not received a reply to your application for internal review within three weeks, this is deemed to be a refusal and you may appeal direct to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely



Gillian Holmes
Freedom of Information Unit
01 8587639

Schedule of documents

Record Number	Number of Pages in Document	Document Description	Release (Yes/No)	Reason for Not Releasing/Redacting (Section of the FOI Act)
1	3	A copy of correspondence between Mr Jim Daly, TD and the Public Appointments Service	Partial (details of candidate redacted)	Section 37 (personal information)
2	2	A copy of correspondence between Mr Jimmy Deenihan, TD and the Public Appointments Service	Partial (details of candidate redacted)	Section 37 (personal information)
3	3	A copy of correspondence between Ms Michelle Mulherin, TD and the Public Appointments Service	Partial (details of candidate redacted)	Section 37 (personal information)
4	1	A copy of correspondence between Mr James Bannon TD and the Public Appointments Service	Partial (details of candidate redacted)	Section 37 (personal information)
5	3	A copy of correspondence between Mr Gerald Nash TD and the Public Appointments Service	Partial (details of candidate redacted)	Section 37 (personal information)

From: Internet Contact Mailbox1
Sent: 11 February 2015 10:09
To: Tumelty, Cathriona
Subject: FW:

Whom It May Concern ,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Deputy once again for the above Constituent. She contacted the Deputy because she applied for a clerical position with your office and did an online test. Unfortunately she failed this test by two points. However her over all score was 228. She is wondering if it would be possible to appeal this decision. I have attached the online test as well as her e-mail below. I would be very much obliged if you could reply to me on this matter as soon as possible. Thank you for your time on this matter.

Kind Regards,

Laura

Hi Jim,

I just wanted to run this by you. I applied to the public service for a clerical position last July, I did the online test (they were tuff). To qualify to the next level you had to have a minimum qualifying score in 4 categories, totalling 131. I was short 2 points in one section but my points totalled 228.

I know it is late in the day but is there any way of appealing this or redoing that particular test in order to get to the next level?

I have attached the information for you to have a look at.

Kind regards

Laura Hallissey
Secretarial Assistant to Jim Daly TD
7 South Main Street
Bandon
023 88 43868

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Bearias ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh.
<http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/ga/eolas/beariasriomhphoistanoireachtaisagusseanadh/>

From: Love, Pádraig
Sent: 11 February 2015 12:00
To: Laura.Hallissey@Oireachtas.ie
Subject: RE:

Hi Laura

As mentioned on the phone, it is not appropriate for political representations to be made, on behalf of a candidate, in relation to performance/assessment in a competition process. PAS is an independent Office and such representations will be deemed as canvassing and can lead to the disqualification of the candidate.

If a candidate is unhappy with the outcome of a test, there is a formal appeals mechanism to avail of. This would have been set out in the competition booklet. Unfortunately, given the time lapse, she is outside of the window to avail of this. However, PAS will be advertising a Temporary Clerical Officer campaign shortly and she is welcome to apply for that. If she is registered on www.publicjobs.ie she can avail of a "job-alert" facility whereby she will get an email notification when the campaign goes live. She just needs to ensure that she has activated that option.

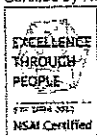
Regards

Pádraig

Pádraig Love
Head of Corporate Services

Public Appointments Service
Chapter House, 28/30 Abbey Street Upper, Dublin 1
Tel 353 1 858 7502

publicjobs.ie
Delivering People Solutions to the Public Service
Certified by NSAI for Excellence Through People in 2013



Holmes, Gillian

From: Tumelty, Cathriona [/o=csc/ou=dublin/cn=recipients/cn=tumeltyc]
Sent: 27 January 2015 12:25
To: Flynn, Mary; Love, Padraig
Subject: FW: \n
Attachments: publicjobs results josephine daly.docx

Hi Mary, Padraig,

Please see below email on behalf of Jim Daly TD.

Thanks
Cathriona

Cathriona Tumelty
Recruitment Manager
Public Appointments Service
Chapter House, 26/30 Abbey Street Upper, Dublin 1
T 353 1 858 7468

publicjobs.ie
Delivering People Solutions to the Public Service
Certified by NSAI for Excellence Through People in 2013 | Top 10 Graduate Recruiter – Grad Ireland 2008 & 2009

From: Internet Contact Mailbox1
Sent: 27 January 2015 12:11
To: +LVC2
Subject: FW:

From: Laura Hallissey [<mailto:Laura.Hallissey@Oireachtas.ie>]
Sent: 27 January 2015 12:09
To: Internet Contact Mailbox1
Subject:

To Whom It May Concern ,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Deputy once again for the above Constituent. y contacted the Deputy because she applied for a clerical position with your office and did an online test. Unfortunately she failed this test by just two points. However her over all score was 228. She is wondering if it would be possible to appeal this decision. I have attached the online test below. I would be very much obliged if you could reply to me in writing on this matter at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time on this matter.

Kind Regards,

Laura

Hi Jim,

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I know it is late in the day but Is there any way of appealing this or redoing that particular test in order to get to the next level?

I have attached the information for you to have a look at.

Kind regards

(See attached file: publicjobs results.)

Laura Hallissey
Secretarial Assistant to Jim Daly TD
7 South Main Street
Bandon
023 88 43868

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Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh.

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/ga/eolas/beartasriomhphoistanoireachtaisagusseanadh/>

From: Flynn, Mary
Sent: 11 May 2015 16:39
To: David.Ebbs@taoiseach.gov.ie
Cc: Stewart, Mildred
Subject: FW: Department of Foreign Affairs Career for the Diaspora Community

Dear Mr Ebbs

I refer to your enquiry made on behalf of Minister Jimmy Deenihan T.D in relation to

The Public Appointments Service (PAS) is the centralised recruitment agency for the Irish civil and public service and as part of its remit, conducts graduate recruitment campaigns from time to time on behalf of the Department of Foreign Affairs for positions as Third Secretary. This is a career that offers the opportunity to enter the Irish diplomatic service.

It is recommend that register with the Public Appointments Service website www.gradpublicjobs.ie or www.publicjobs.ie and, if he has not already done so, set up job alerts under "Graduate and Trainee/Junior Management". This will ensure that he receives an e-mail notification when posts in this category are advertised. Information in relation to specific eligibility requirements will be available once a competition is advertised. However, typically applicants for Third Secretary must, as a minimum hold a recognised honours Bachelors degree and be a citizen of Ireland. In the meantime, will find information on Third Secretary and other graduate positions on our websites.

Regards
Mary Flynn
Assistant Principal

Public Appointments Service

From: David.Ebbs@taoiseach.gov.ie [mailto:David.Ebbs@taoiseach.gov.ie]
Sent: 07 May 2015 14:30
To: Internet Contact Mailbox1
Subject: Department of Foreign Affairs Career for the Diaspora Community

Hi,

I am writing to you from the Office of Jimmy Deenihan T.D.

The Minister was sent the below enquiries from about applying for a position in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

He has been on publicjobs.ie but is looking for information he could not find on the website.

Could you please advise?

Kind regards,

David Ebbs
Office of Jimmy Deenihan TD
Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and Foreign Affairs
with Special Responsibility for the Diaspora

david.ebbs@taoiseach.gov.ie
Phone: 01-619-4393

----- Forwarded by Bernadette Lee/CA/DOT on 07/05/2015 12:21 -----

From
To: jimmy.deenihan@oir.ie
Date: 07/05/2015 12:02
Subject: Department of Foreign Affairs Career for the Diaspora Community

FAO: the office of Jimmy Deenihan TD.

Dear Mr. Deenihan,

My name is () I am contacting you with regards to a possible future career in Irish foreign affairs.

I am 25 years old and hold a Bachelor with Hons. Degree in German from Trinity College, Dublin and a Master in International Relations from the University of Melbourne, Australia. I was born and schooled predominantly in London, but hold Irish and Australian citizenship as well as British, on account of my parents. Since 2007, I have lived 2007, in Ireland, Austria, Australia and now in The Hague, Netherlands, where I am about to undertake a six-month internship at the United Nations' International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

I am eager to pursue a career in foreign affairs and will shortly be undertaking the EPSO written tests for entry position jobs into the European Union in its 'Generalist' role as an Irish citizen.

I would also be very keen in a career with the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin, but, having studied International Relations in Australia, I lack first-hand information and advice in how to pursue a career. Publicjobs.ie and Taoiseach.ie do not make it clear when openings for entry level positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs might open, and I wonder if there is a yearly application for graduate and entry-level positions as is the case for many public affairs organisations? Are there other websites I should be looking to apply through?

Furthermore, as Minister for Diaspora Affairs, I particularly wanted to ask you about my suitability for the role as someone educated largely outside of Ireland and a holder of British and Australian passports, on top of my Irish one? Would my foreign education or background hold me back in this sector? If I were at one point to take up a position with the Australian Government, would this bar me from working in Irish public affairs too?

I look forward to your reply,

Best regards,

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Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh.

From: Mary Caulfield [mailto:Mary.Caulfield@Oireachtas.ie]
Sent: 22 July 2015 13:17
To: Internet Contact Mailbox1
Subject:

PPS Number:-

Dear Sirs,

The above named has contacted me in relation to her application for clerical officer.

Would you please confirm how many civil and public service permanent clerical positions in the region Longford, Leitrim and Sligo and the region Mayo and Roscommon are currently being recruited for? Once placed on a panel how long does a candidate remain on the panel?

I would be obliged to hear from you at your early convenience.

Many thanks.

Mary Caulfield
Parliamentary Assistant to Michelle Mulherin T.D.
Constituency Office:
John Street
Ballina
096 77596

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file:///H:/CORP_DEV/CEO's%20Office/Correspondence/2015/TD's%20Corresponde... 18/01/2016

From: Flynn, Mary
Sent: 31 July 2015 16:04
To: Mary.Caulfield@Oireachtas.ie
Subject:

Dear Ms Caulfield

The Public Appointments Service (PAS) is an independent, statutory body which provides professional recruitment and selection services to the civil and public service. The PAS advertised a recruitment competition for Clerical Positions in the Civil and Public Service in June 2014 which attracted over 28,000 applications. This competition is being held in order to create panels of qualified individuals from which departments and public service bodies may draw when filling sanctioned vacancies. The establishment of a panel for a location(s) is based on demand as notified to PAS.

The selection is conducted by way of a multi stage process, Stage 1 comprised tests and assessments which candidates were invited to complete online. Those who reached the qualifying standard were ranked for each of their selected regions.

To date candidates who had chosen regions for which vacancies have been notified to PAS and who were placed highest at Stage 1, have been called to stage 2 (supervised tests). Based on the results of these tests, candidates who reach the qualifying standard and who are placed highest may be invited to Stage 3 (interview) and, if their place is reached, considered for a vacancy.

The following is the current status in relation to the regions you mention in your enquiry:

Mayo/Roscommon – Stage 2 tests have been completed for those placed up to 211 from Stage 1. Results expected to issue in September and interviews to be held thereafter.

Longford, Leitrim and Sligo – Stage 2 tests have been completed for those placed up to 166 from Stage 1 and results issued in June. Interviews for this group are expected to be held August/September.

Generally a competition such as this remains in operation for a period of approximately 18 months to 2 years.

I trust this clarifies the situation.

Regards
Mary

Mary Flynn
Public Appointments Service
Chapter House, 26/30 Abbey Street Upper, Dublin 1
T 353 1 8587412
publicjobs.ie
Delivering People Solutions to the Public Service
Platinum Award for Excellence Through People – 2008 | Top 10 Graduate Recruiter – Grad Ireland 2008 & 2009

Dear Sirs,

The above named has contacted me in relation to her application for clerical officer.

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I would be obliged to hear from you at your early convenience.

Many thanks.

Mary Caulfield
Parliamentary Assistant to Michelle Mulherin T.D.
Constituency Office:
John Street
Ballina
096 77596

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<http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/ga/eolas/beartasriomhphoistanoireachtaisagusseanadh/>



JAMES BANNON TD

Longford/Westmeath Constituency

Member and Convenor of Joint Committee on Environment, Community & Local Government, Transport, Tourism & Sport, Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht

Newtown, Legan, Co. Longford.
Tel: 04493 57575

Longford Office:
Richmond Street Longford.
Tel: 04333 36185

E Mail: james.bannon@oir.ie
Mobile: 087 2031816

Human Resources Manager,
Public Jobs,
Chapter House,
26/30 Abbey Street Upper,
Dublin 1.

17th June 2015.

RE: REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF
PPS. NO: _____

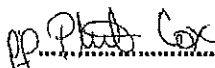
Dear Sirs,

I wish to make representations on behalf of the above mentioned with regard to an update on his interview for a temporary position in The Department of Social Protection. I understand that _____ was ranked 104 in Longford and 701 in Swords.

I would be much obliged for your update on the above as soon as possible.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


.....
DEPUTY JAMES BANNON.

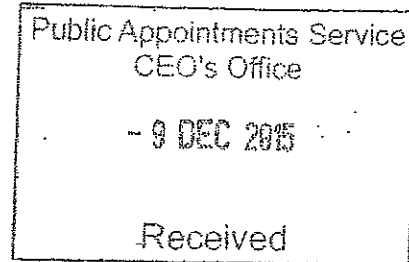
Phoned secretary and informed them to ask the candidate to contact the office directly and we would answer all his questions.
Afealo -



MINISTER FOR BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT

GERALD NASH TD
Louth/East Meath

Fiona Tierney
Chief Executive
Public Appointments Service
Chapter House
26/30 Abbey Street Upper
Dublin 1



7/12/2015

Dear Fiona,

I am writing on behalf of a constituent whom, as I understand, has been making applications for transfers to various public sector agencies from her current position in the

I understand that _____ is on the top of the scale for clerical officers and I would appreciate if you could let me know if there are any clerical officer positions available in the service to which she could migrate.

My understanding is that there are positions available currently in the Department of Foreign Affairs' offices in Balbriggan and I would appreciate if you could let me know if that is the position.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Nash TD
Minister for Business & Employment

Constituency Office
Connolly Hall, Palace Street,
Drogheda, Co. Louth
A92 YV70

Tel: 041-981 0811

Fax: 01 618 4397

Email: gerald.nash@oif.ie

Mr Gerald Nash TD
Constituency Office
Connolly Hall
Palace Street
Drogheda
Co Louth

11 December 2015

Re:

Dear Deputy Nash

Further to your letter of the 7 December last to Ms Fiona Tierney, Chief Executive at the Public Appointments Service, I have been asked to reply to same. I note that your representation relates to [redacted], a Clerical Officer in the [redacted]

As you will be aware the Public Appointments Service (PAS) is the centralised provider of recruitment, assessment and selection services for the Civil Service. In certain circumstances we also provide recruitment services to other public bodies. In relation to redeployment PAS was assigned an additional function under the Public Service Agreement. The Parties to the Agreement recognised that public bodies and individual public servants would have to increase their flexibility and mobility to work together across sectoral, organisational and professional boundaries. A process known as redeployment was put in place to facilitate the necessary mobility outlined in the agreement. The operation of the redeployment process is outlined in detail in the redeployment toolkit (available on our website www.publicjobs.ie), which was agreed between management and staff. Employees should engage with their own personnel section to discuss what options, if any, there are under redeployment. An organisation which places an employee on a redeployment resource panel is prohibited from backfilling any resulting vacancy.

You may be aware that PAS ran a national campaign to recruit Clerical Officers for the Civil and Public Service in 2015. Successful applicants for this competition are in the process of being assigned to vacancies throughout the country. It is likely that we will be running a similar campaign within the next 12 months, possibly as early as in late spring of 2016 though this is yet to be determined based on the demands placed on the existing Clerical Officer panel. Were [redacted] make successful application for same in 2016 she might well secure a position in the civil service. Appointments from such panels are strictly by Order of Merit. [redacted] should perhaps consider registering on our www.publicjobs.ie website and setting up an automatic alert to advise her of such a competition.

Other options may be available locally including head to head swaps and/or transfers using mechanisms within and between departments. [redacted] would need to make direct contact with relevant department personnel sections to explore those options and whether or not such arrangements are available to her. Regarding your specific query on the positions available in Balbriggan at the Department of Foreign Affairs, I am aware that a number of positions were filled there earlier in the year. We do not have requests to fill any vacancies in that location at present.

I trust the above answers your queries and that it provides avenues which usefully explore.

might

Yours sincerely

Brian Murphy

Client Account Manager