



2 June 2025

Email:

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Request No:** 27936-24  
**Subject:** Station Officer Band 7 Recruitment  
**Date Received:** 07/05/2024

Thank you for your request for information received on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and that is detailed below.

**Question**

Station Officer Band 7 Recruitment Trawl.

I would appreciate you supplying the following information to me under FOI.

A copy of the application documentation submitted by all successful short listed candidates for this post.

Information requested should show and be easily viewed as to what they documented and how they fulfilled the following for this advertised post.

1. Essential Criteria
  2. Desirable Criteria.
- (With any personal identifiable details removed from both)

**Answer**

After careful consideration, the Trust can confirm that while we do hold the information you have requested — including application forms and associated documents — we are unable to provide this information. The reason for this is as follows:

**Exemption applied: FOI Section 40(2) – Personal Information**

The requested documents contain personal data relating to individuals other than the requester, including names, employment histories, qualifications, and other information which could identify specific individuals.

Disclosure of this information would contravene the principles of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, particularly the requirement that personal data must be processed fairly, lawfully, and transparently. Even



if heavy redaction was applied to these application forms information has the potential to identify staff due to how the application form is completed and with very personal examples provided.

Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that such personal data is exempt from disclosure if releasing it would contravene any of the data protection principles.

This exemption is absolute, and therefore we are not required to consider the public interest in disclosure.

### **What we can provide:**

While we are unable to release individual application documents, we may be able to provide anonymised or summarised information about:

- The recruitment process and criteria used;
- The number of applicants who met the essential criteria;
- A general overview of how candidates were assessed.

If you would like to receive this type of information, please let us know and we would be happy to consider a revised request.

I hope the above fully assists you.

Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

**Email:** [ni@ico.org.uk](mailto:ni@ico.org.uk)

**Website:** [ICO Website](http://ico.org.uk)

**Post:** Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

**Telephone:** 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <https://nias.hscni.net> Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

*(not signed – issued by email)*

---

**Information Governance Team**