



25th July, 2024

Fergus O' Dowd, T.D.,
28a Bachelors Lane,
Drogheda,
Co Louth

Dear Deputy O' Dowd,

I wish to refer further to Parliamentary Question 27230/24, which was responded to on 20th June, 2024. The question posed was as follows;

To ask the Minister for Enterprise; Trade and Employment the number of contracted staff, full-time and part-time, employed by his Department, and by any body or entity under the aegis of the Department, who are specifically assigned to processing freedom of information requests (details supplied), in each of the past three years; the Civil Service grade of each; the number of freedom of information requests dealt with by his Department, or any body or entity under its aegis, in each of the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The relevant information has now been collated and set out in Table 1 below is the total number of staff specifically assigned to processing freedom of information requests across my Department, its bodies or entities under its aegis¹.

Table 1 Staffing levels specifically assigned to processing FOIs²

Department/Agency	No. and Grade of Officials
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	1 x Assistant Principal Officer 1 x Higher Executive Officer, 2 x Executive Officers 1 x Clerical Officer
Competition and Consumer Protection Commission	1 x Assistant Principal Officer 1 x Higher Executive Officer
Corporate Enforcement Authority (CEA) since July 2022, was the (ODCE) Office of Director Corporate Enforcement	No dedicated FOI Unit within CEA
Enterprise Ireland ³	1 x Assistant Principal Officer 1 x Higher Executive Officer
Health and Safety Authority	3 x Higher Executive Officers 1 x Clerical Officer (Part-time)

¹ Note: The Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority and Intertrade Ireland are not subject to Freedom of Information requests and thus they returned nil observations.

² Note: DETE includes the CRO (& RFS, RBO), IPOI, WRC, EAT, LC, CLRG and LPC

³ Note: Enterprise Ireland figures include the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland

IDA Ireland	1 x Assistant Principal 1 x Higher Executive Officer
National Standards Authority of Ireland	1 x Higher Executive Officer
The Injuries Resolution Board (formerly the Personal Injuries Assessment Board)	1 x Assistant Principal Officer 1 x Higher Executive Officer

The total number of FOI requests dealt with by my Department, its bodies or entities under its aegis are outlined in table 2.

Table 2 Total number of FOI requests in the past three years

Department/Office/Agency	2021	2022	2023
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment	279	313	285
Companies Registration Office (CRO)	9	2	6
Company Law Review Group	0	0	2
Competition and Consumer Protection Commission	12	7	32
Enterprise Ireland	38	43	31
Health & Safety Authority	170	202	226
IDA Ireland	57	56	58
Workplace Relations Commission	30	24	25
National Standards Authority of Ireland	12	8	22
Corporate Enforcement Authority (CEA) since July 2022, was the (ODCE) Office of Director Corporate Enforcement	7	13	16
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	1	1	0
Intellectual Property Office of Ireland (IPOI)	3	6	2
Registry of Friendly Societies	0	0	0
Employment Appeals Tribunal	2	0	0
The Injuries Resolution Board (formerly the Personal Injuries Assessment Board)	15	19	21
Labour Court	2	4	9
Low Pay Commission	0	1	2
Total	641	704	746

Yours sincerely,



Peter Burke T.D.

Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment