

Ref: FOI / 5977

22nd September 2025

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request - Apprenticeships in Council and Staffing Shortages

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

- 1. Can you provide the numbers of new entrants for each of the last three financial years for formal apprenticeships at your council, with the totals provided separately by job title/craft/trade associated with the apprenticeship.**

[Please note I am not requesting numbers for other forms of training, only formal apprenticeships. Please note further I do not want the total number of apprenticeships for each year – only the new entrants for apprenticeships in each of the last three years.]

- 25/26 – 1 No. Mechanical Engineering apprentice
- 24/25 – 0
- 23/24 – 1 No. Motor Vehicle Maintenance apprentice and 3 No. Grounds
 - Maintenance apprentices.

- 2. Can you provide the current number of staffing vacancies/shortages at your council for each of the various categories of craft workers, tradespersons or other occupations for which a formal apprenticeship would be appropriate as a career pathway for a trainee worker?**

There are currently no vacancies for craft/tradespersons however apprenticeships would be appropriate as a career pathway in areas such as Vehicle Maintenance, Grounds Maintenance and Mechanical Engineering.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

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Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel: 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would advise however, the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Paula Donnelly
Head of Human Resources