

16<sup>th</sup> January 2020Tel: 028 9536 3863  
Email: [FOI.BSO@hscni.net](mailto:FOI.BSO@hscni.net)**BY EMAIL**  
**Our Ref: FOI 1173**Dear 

Your request for information was received on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please be advised that the Business Services Organisation (BSO) has now completed its search for the information you requested with regards previous interview questions for Band 6 post of Research and Information Officer with the Public Health Agency.

Please be advised that as there is currently a 'live' recruitment process in place for this role, this information is considered exempt from disclosure under section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000('Commercial Interests'). As this is a qualified exemption, a public interest test is attached for your reference.

I would further advise that you may wish to re-submit your request once the current recruitment process has concluded; however 'expected' responses will remain exempt from disclosure under the afore – mentioned legislation.

I hope that the information provided assists you. 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

Information Governance Manager,  
2 Franklin Street,  
Belfast,  
BT2 8DQ

If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision making panel, 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 BSO has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can contact Information Commissioner at:

**Website:** [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)  
**Phone:** 0303 123 1113  
**Email:** [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)  
**Post:** Information Commissioner's Office  
3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place  
Belfast  
BT7 2JB

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.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liam McIvor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Liam McIvor**  
Chief Executive

## Public Interest Test

| Interview questions for the role of RQIA Inspector Band 7  |  |
|--|--|
| Exemption claimed in respect of Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000; Commercial Interests |  |
| In favour of disclosure of information   | In favour of not disclosing information  |
| Details of public service recruitment processes require openness, transparency and accountability.         | To publicly release the information sought is likely to adversely affect the viability of the 'live' recruitment processes, thereby prejudicing the commercial interests of RQIA.  |
|  | To provide the information sought would disadvantage other applicants and therefore reduce the effectiveness of the recruitment process for a public service post by potentially compromising the calibre of the candidates. |