



25 September 2025

Dear Applicant

Our Ref: FOI 912

Your request for information received on 28 August 2025 has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Request

- 1. Can you provide the numbers of new entrants for each of the last three financial years for formal apprenticeships at the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, 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.]

- 2. Can you provide the current number of staffing vacancies/shortages at the Northern Ireland Housing Executive 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?*

Our response

- 1. The number of new apprentices for each of the last three financial years for formal apprenticeships at the Northern Ireland Housing Executive is contained in Table 1 below.*

The Housing Executive offers a wide range of apprenticeships and graduate programmes across the organisation, providing valuable experience, training and a career pathway for trainees who may not otherwise be able to secure employment. The Housing Executive also offers other opportunities for employees to gain new skills and progress in their careers, for example career pathways have been created for a number of trade roles within Housing Executive Direct.

Some examples of apprenticeships and graduate programmes over the last 3 years include:

- Customer Support Apprenticeships within Housing Services,
- Higher Level Apprenticeships in Project Management and Quantity Surveying within Asset Management
- Graduate trainee programmes within Housing Services, Finance, IT and Asset Management. We recently appointed 8 new graduates to our Project Delivery team in Asset Management.
- Trade apprenticeships within Housing Executive Direct

The following table shows the number of apprenticeships as requested:

Table 1: Apprentices Recruited (since 2022) by Role:

Year	Apprenticeship By Role	Number Recruited
2022	Apprentice Project Manager	4
2022	Apprentice Quantity Surveyor	4
2022	Housing Services Customer Support Apprentice	9
2022	Payroll Apprentice	1
2023	Joiner	10
2023	Electrician	3
2023	Plumber	3
2023	Finance Apprentice	1
2024	Payroll Apprentice	1
2024	Finance Apprentice	1
2024	Housing Services Support Apprentice	10
2025	Joiner* (Part Qualified)	3
2025	Plumber* (Part Qualified)	3
2025	Housing Services Support Apprentice*	12

* Due to start October 2025

2. The current number of staffing vacancies/shortages at the Northern Ireland Housing Executive 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

Table 2: Current Vacancies by Trade:

There are a range of roles across the organisation that have previously been, or could be, filled through apprenticeships and graduate programmes and we continue to explore opportunities to create more career pathways.

The table below shows current trade vacancies which have previously been filled through apprenticeships in the last 3 years.

It should be noted that there are recruitment processes ongoing at present and as such the number of vacancies is expected to reduce, for example Table 1 above shows that 6 new apprentices are due to commence employment in October.

Trade	Number of Vacancies Sept 2025
Joiner	12*
Plumber	6*
Electrician	3
Painter	2
Roofer	2
Tiler	1
Grounds	2

* These figures will reduce when new apprentices commence in October 25

This concludes our response.