

John Hyde
request-1002452-c8dab951@whatdotheyknow.com

data.access@justice.gov.uk

1 August 2023

Dear John

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 230711044

Thank you for your request dated 11 July 2023 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

- 1. How many vacancies for court clerks and court legal adviser are there across the whole HMCTS estate? Please break these vacancies down by region.**
- 2. How many vacancies were there a year ago and on this date in 2019?**
- 3. How many court clerk roles across the estate are currently filled by trainees?**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds some of the information that you have requested, and I have provided it below (Annex A).

On point 1, we have provided the 'live' vacancies data as of 31 July 2023 and this refers to the current number of Court Clerk and Legal Advisor vacancies across HMCTS at the advertising stage. We have also provided an additional table showing for the number of vacancies at sift, selection or offer stage as of 31 July 2023.

On point 2, we have provided the 'live' vacancies data as of 31 July 2019 and 31 July 2022. However, we are unable to extract data showing the number of vacancies at sift, selection or offer stage for previous years, meaning the number of vacancies appears to be much lower.

On point 3, we are unable to provide this information because all Court Clerks are given the same title, rather than titles which reference their experience level.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely
Helen Stevens
HMCTS HR

Annex A – Court Clerk and Legal Advisor vacancies

Figure 1. 'Live' vacancies as of 31 July 2023

	North West	North East	London	Midlands	South West	South East	Wales	Total
Crown Court Clerk	3					1		4
Legal Adviser								0
Trainee Legal Adviser								0

Figure 2. Vacancies at advertising, sift, selection or offer stage as of 31 July 2023

	North West	North East	London	Midlands	South West	South East	Wales	Total
Crown Court Clerk	6		26			1	2	35
Legal Adviser	13					6		19
Trainee Legal Adviser	28	13	16	26	22	35	6	146

Figure 3. 'Live' vacancies as of 31 July 2022

	North West	North East	London	Midlands	South West	South East	Wales	Total
Crown Court Clerk			2	5		1		8
Legal Adviser								0
Trainee Legal Adviser								

Figure 4. 'Live' vacancies as of 31 July 2019

	North West	North East	London	Midlands	South West	South East	Wales	Total
Crown Court Clerk		1				1		2
Legal Adviser					1			1
Trainee Legal Adviser			1					1