

From the Office of the Minister



Department of
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Personnel**

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CORRECTION TO AQW 1766/11-15

I replied on 17 October 2011 to your AQW 1766/11 in respect of the number of civil servants who have been allowed to go on secondment to the private sector in the past two years; at what grade the civil servants were; and how they competed for the job. My response provided information on the numbers of civil servants who have availed of secondment opportunities to a wide range of organisations across all employment sectors in Northern Ireland.

Since my reply to you, an exercise to consolidate and reconcile data archived in the various departmental record management systems with those held by HRConnect, has revealed that the data included in the response which reported that 5 staff at Administrative Officer (AO) – Deputy Principal (DP) level were on secondment to the private sector in the year 2009/10 was incorrect. This was inadvertent and I apologise for the error and any confusion it may have caused.

The data reconciliation exercise referred to above will ensure that in future the data recorded properly reflects the employment assignment status of civil servants availing of secondment opportunities. It will also reduce the possibility of misinterpretation of host organisations' sectoral affiliation, particularly in identifying those which fall within the public or private sector.

The secondments data in response to Staff Report is outlined in the table below

Host	AA	AO	EO2	EO1	SO	DP	G7	G6	SCS
Private	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public	0	1	5	0	2	***3	***2	*1	*1
Voluntary	0	8	3	3	1	0	0	0	0
Social Economy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EU	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

Key:

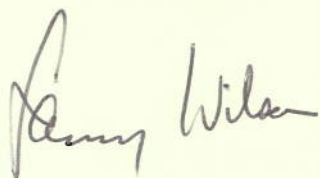
* Secondments arranged by means of direct posting.

** Secondments arranged following circulation of an opportunity to staff only at SCS level.

*** Secondments arranged via mix of direct posting and through advertising on the HRConnect Portal.

All other Secondments listed were advertised via the HRConnect Portal. Applications made by staff were considered by the host organisation who selected a candidate based on his/her suitability against the requirements for the secondment position.

I have copied this letter to the Speaker and all MLAs. A copy has also been placed in the library.



SAMMY WILSON MP MLA