

8 July 2026

Kinship Coordination Post

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the Kinship Coordination post based at the Blackie Centre, Belfast.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

- 1. On what date was the Kinship Coordination post advertised?**
- 2. Where was the post advertised (for example, HSC Jobs, Belfast Trust website, internal advertisement only, or any other recruitment platform)?**
- 3. Please provide a copy of the job advertisement, if available.**
- 4. Please provide a copy of the Job Description and Person Specification.**
- 5. What essential and desirable qualifications, experience and professional requirements were required for applicants?**
- 6. Was the post advertised internally only, or was it open to external applicants? If it was an internal-only recruitment exercise, please confirm this.**
- 7. Please confirm the closing date for applications.**
- 8. How many applications were received, and how many candidates were shortlisted and interviewed? (Please provide numbers only and no personal information.)**

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) does not hold the information requested in relation to the recruitment of the Kinship Coordination post, as the recruitment process is not undertaken or managed by BHSCT.

BHSCT commissions services from independent community and voluntary sector organisations through Service Level Agreements (SLAs). These agreements specify the outcomes and service delivery requirements to be provided; they do not prescribe how a provider must staff or resource the service.

It is the responsibility of the commissioned organisation to determine how the agreed service is delivered. This may include utilising existing staff, recruiting employees, engaging sessional workers, appointing freelance personnel, or adopting other staffing arrangements as appropriate. Decisions relating to recruitment, advertising, job descriptions, person specifications, application processes, shortlisting and appointments are matters for the individual provider organisation and are not held by BHSCT.

8 July 2026

In relation to this specific arrangement, BHSCT entered into a Service Level Agreement with Blackie River Community Group, effective from 1 May 2026, for the delivery of kinship support services. The SLA relates to the provision of services and support outcomes rather than the recruitment of any specific post.

Furthermore, the Kinship Support Programme is currently being delivered as a pilot initiative. Funding provided under these arrangements is non-recurrent and time-limited, and BHSCT has made no commitment to ongoing or permanent funding. Any employment arrangements entered into by commissioned organisations are therefore matters for those organisations and not for BHSCT.

As the requested recruitment information is not held by BHSCT, the Trust is unable to provide the details requested.