

Aoife Stewart

27th September 2022

Dear ByrneWallace Graduate Recruitment Team,

By way of introduction, my name is Aoife Stewart and I am writing to express my deep interest in applying for the ByrneWallace Traineeship programme as advertised on the firm's website. I am a recent graduate of a First Class Honours Bachelor of Civil Law Degree from University College Dublin and I am currently completing a LLM in Environmental and Natural Resources law at University College Cork.

I am deeply drawn to the work of ByrneWallace and the firm's wide range of practice areas. While practising law requires an understanding of legal rules, corporate law appeals to me due to its clear business-focused approach. Working as a sales assistant and intern has led me to be commercial-minded and given me the motivation to understand the industry considerations of corporate clients before offering them practical legal solutions. I developed my interests in corporate and commercial law while at university by studying the modules of banking, company, commercial, employment and intellectual property law. My interest in these areas of law often motivated me to read beyond what was required and I even contributed an article to the 2021 SLS Journal where I analysed the position of digital content and software within Ireland's Sale of Goods Law.

From attending the firm's webinars and information sessions, it is clear that ByrneWallace is a diverse and progressive firm which places substantial emphasis on innovative thinking. The firm's strong corporate practice and forward-thinking approach has strongly captured my interest. In terms of the traineeship programme itself, I was particularly struck by how clearly the firm values its trainees and the sheer level of investment that the firm puts into their learning. I also commend the firm's commitments to ensuring trainees have a healthy work-life balance. In this regard, I was especially excited to learn about the various events ran by the firm's Social and Sports Committee and the efforts that ByrneWallace makes to get trainees involved with the firm's Corporate Responsibility Programme.

Moreover, I admire the firm's CSR and environmental initiatives. Social responsibility and sustainability are two issues which resonate strongly with me, both personally and in my professional life. Upon researching ByrneWallace, I was excited to read about the firm's efforts to minimise environmental damage by recycling 95% of waste, implementing a bin-less policy and becoming the first Irish firm to implement an integrated Environmental Management System. Environmental sustainability is a huge concern of mine in my personal life and I could not imagine working for a firm that did not share similar concerns. I would welcome an opportunity to support and contribute to the firm's initiatives.

Thank you in advance for considering my application. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours sincerely,

Aoife Stewart