

Emer Cassidy
8 Gainsborough Court
Malahide
Co Dublin

Ms Ciara Loftus
HR Manager
ByrneWallace LLP
88 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2

28 September 2021

Re: Trainee Solicitor Programme 2022

Dear Ms Loftus

I wish to be considered for the ByrneWallace Trainee Solicitor Programme 2022 as advertised on the careers section of the company website. I am currently pursuing a Master of Laws (LL. M.) in Trinity College Dublin and simultaneously completing the FE-1 exams, both of which I aim to complete in Q2 2022. I approach the law profession as a career changer having worked in financial services, in AIB then NAMA, for 6 years. There are three key elements which I believe are important for consideration and to convey my motivation for being accepted into the ByrneWallace Trainee Solicitor Programme - why I want to be a solicitor, why ByrneWallace specifically, and what I believe I can bring to the role.

As a person who does not possess an undergraduate law degree, my interest in the law initially came from seeing law in practise in the financial services industry. In NAMA in particular, I had the opportunity to work on many varieties of projects and cases, mostly all of which included a legal element requiring involvement and advice from in-house and external solicitors such as ByrneWallace. It was from seeing excellent solicitors in this position, the work that they do, their knowledge and inter-personal skills that encouraged me to pursue this career over continuing in a more commercial position. Going through the process of the FE-1s and starting an LL. M. has solidified my decision - I am interested and engaged with the law in theory and I look forward to developing this passion into a position where I am training and practising as a solicitor in future.

I hope to train in ByrneWallace because it is a firm which values decency and honesty but also values more than just legal knowledge and seeks to develop legal skills as well as commercial and financial competence. The emphasis ByrneWallace places on collaboration and teamwork appeals to me. I believe the best way to learn is through first-hand involvement in a variety of cases, transactions and projects and having the appropriate platform to raise questions and learn from other people's knowledge and experience in a team environment. I greatly appreciate working in this kind of environment due to the guidance and support offered as well as camaraderie and knowledge exchange with others. In addition, ByrneWallace has a strong reputation in the areas of my particular interest being property, banking, insolvency and corporate law. I am also very willing to try other areas to broaden my interests.

As a trainee solicitor with ByrneWallace I will bring my enthusiasm for being meaningfully involved in the work of the firm and department I am placed in, my commitment to continuous development and learning as well as the transferable skills I have developed as through my career thus far including the ability to prioritise and manage a demanding workload, understanding the importance of meeting deadlines, commercial awareness and experience building relationships both with colleagues and third parties. I believe it is my experience, skills and motivation to be successful in this career that will make me an excellent addition to the ByrneWallace team both in the training programme and beyond.

I wish to thank you for taking the time to read my application, CV and cover letter. I am contactable on 0876244685 or via email at casside3@tcd.ie. I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely
Emer Cassidy