

Dear Ms. Loftus

My name is Luke Lyons and I would like to apply for the Trainee Solicitor Programme 2022 at Byrne Wallace LLP.

I have gained a Bachelor of Laws degree from Maynooth University after transferring from the Arts programme where I also read History and Anthropology, and have completed the Law Society of Ireland FE1 exams.

I have nearly three years' experience as a judicial assistant to a judge of the High Court. In this role, I have worked with matters concerning Company Law, Planning Law, Judicial Review, Employment Law litigation where common law remedies were sought, Succession Law, and a large swathe of matters where various equitable remedies were sought. I have experience of litigation from interlocutory procedural and injunctive motions, substantive hearings, and some appeals from the Circuit Court. I have also assisted the Judicial Research Office, by updating or composing information memos concerning a variety of areas of law for the Judiciary at all levels, and the Courts Service of Ireland.

In my current role as Case Officer for the Preliminary Investigation Committee of the Veterinary Council of Ireland, a statutory body, I have learned to operate in a specialised and particularly prescriptive role given the parameters set out in the Veterinary Practice Act 2005 (as amended). This role has also taught me the day-to-day requirements of legal work, the formalities and tenor of corresponding with applicants and respondents where investigations into fitness to practise are being conducted, the maintaining of detailed records of all correspondence and documentation, and the use of relevant I.T. systems.

It is clear Byrne Wallace would be an excellent firm with which to train as a solicitor. Byrne Wallace is a firm which I associate with high-end legal work from my time as a judicial assistant. In researching Byrne Wallace, I am hugely impressed by the firm's experience in both traditional areas of law such as Administrative Law and Real Property Law, and relatively emergent areas such as data protection and Intellectual Property Law. Byrne Wallace's concern for issues such as climate change and white-collar crime give me encouragement that your firm's values align with my own. Byrne Wallace's trainee testimonies are also encouraging as regards the supports and responsibilities your firm gives to its trainees.

I believe that between my work with the Courts Service of Ireland and the Veterinary Council of Ireland, I have learned both the substance and the form of legal work. I also believe that Byrne Wallace, with its profile and experience, breadth of practise areas, tangible regard to corporate responsibility, and supports given to trainees, would be an exceptional firm to train as a solicitor with.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Lyons LLB.