

To Whom it May Concern at Byrne Wallace LLP,

My name is Orlagh Hearne and I am a final year student at Trinity College Dublin. After researching particular law firms and deciding where I would like to apply for my traineeship, your firm has become a significant interest of mine.

The dedication and attention offered to trainees at Byrne Wallace is attractive to me and I believe that my legal education would develop from working in a progressive and forward thinking law firm. The prospect of career advancement is important to me when deciding where to train as a solicitor. The potential to progress on in my career in the same firm where I trained as a solicitor is a feature of Byrne Wallace that entices me. I find this important as after training and putting my time and effort into a firm, they are in a position to see my potential and understand my strengths, ensuring that the opportunity to advance in my career is there.

After carrying out a module in European Private Law during my semester abroad in Zurich, I have gained a particular interest in commercial law. I enjoyed learning about the internal market within the EU, particularly from a Swiss perspective. It was interesting to learn about Switzerland's role in the EU, as a non-member. Of particular interest to me was competition law and understanding merger control and regulating the abuse of dominant power in relation to corporations. This has influenced me to learn more about corporate law through a traineeship in an international and collaborative law firm such as Byrne Wallace, that can provide me with a well-rounded and in depth understanding of the commercial world.

I believe my personal qualities and skills in communication, leadership and strategic thinking that I have gained from work and life experiences will assist me in my training at Byrne Wallace. From my hospitality experience, I have had the opportunity to work as a team with my colleagues, learning how to communicate during busy periods and understanding the importance of delegating work. I am eager to train somewhere where I can build on and develop these skills, and I believe I could at this firm.

My interests and values align with a career at Byrne Wallace. One of the things that particularly drew me to the firm was the work you do on housing. As mentioned in my application and CV, I have a particular interest in property law and housing. My experience in the conveyancing department at Colm O'Cochlain and Co Solicitors has equipped me with an understanding of the property landscape in Ireland. I have become familiar with the process of buying and selling a house and the relevant documentation required in each case. This work sparked my passion in housing and property and I intend to apply it to my research in my final year. I have begun working on my dissertation of Property and Constitutions: regulating people and places. My research will focus on property and personhood, with an analysis of the housing crisis in Ireland today. As part of my research, I have looked at the Housing Convention Byrne Wallace held in September. From this I have gained insight into the housing market and intend to apply this to my research. I believe that I could learn a lot from the Housing and Real Estate teams at Byrne Wallace, and I could use my research, interest and experience to aid me with my training.

While I am looking to begin a traineeship in 2026, I hope you can consider my application now. I hope to hear from you soon, thank you.

Kind regards,
Orlagh Hearne.