

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Resource Efficiency Division



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department of

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: DAERA 25/396



Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Trans Frontier Shipments & Hazardous
Waste Branch
17 Antrim Road
BT28 3AL
Lisburn
Tel: (02890) 569742

E-mail: HazWaste@daera-ni.gov.uk

27 August 2025

Dear 

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 28th July 2025 which sought the following information:

Please provide the following details of all sites containing asbestos that have been identified by DAERA/the former Department of the Environment/the NIEA over the last 15 years:

- 1) The location (by both name and coordinate).***
- 2) The quantities of asbestos located in each instance.***
- 3) The source of the asbestos, if known (e.g. from former industrial sites nearby)***
- 4) Details of any action taken to remove the asbestos and/or to mitigate any environmental or public health dangers posed by the site(s).***

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



Further clarification was received on 6th August, confirming that your request related to both regulated movements of asbestos and unlawful storage and deposit of asbestos.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds some of the information you requested.

The response has been divided into 2 parts:

Part 1 - Regulated movements of asbestos over past 15 years.

Part 2 - Unlawful storage and deposit of asbestos over past 15 years (due to retention and disposal requirements only 7 years of data held for Part 2).

Part 1 - Regulated movements of asbestos over past 15 years.

The Department has decided not to disclose all the information as it considers regulations 12(4)(b), 12(4)(a), 12(5)(e), 12(3) and 13(1) to be engaged. The information held in a reportable format which can be disclosed is attached in Tables 1 & 2.

1) The location (by both name and coordinate). –

“Name” The current reporting system does not produce a report for this information. This would require resources to review the approx. 39,000 entries and falls under Regulation 12(4)(b) manifestly unreasonable.

This information would also fall under Regulation 12(5)(e), where the Department is legislatively required to consider the public interest in disclosure. An associated Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached for your information at Annex A.

Furthermore, some of the information held constitutes personal data of which you are not the data subject. In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at Annex B and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under EIR exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld under regulations 12(3) and 13(1).

“Coordinate” – Regulations 12(4)(a) applies as this information is not held.

2) The quantities of asbestos located in each instance. – Please see Tables 1 & 2

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



3) The source of the asbestos, if known (e.g. from former industrial sites nearby) – Please see Tables 1 & 2 – SIC Code

4) Details of any action taken to remove the asbestos and/or to mitigate any environmental or public health dangers posed by the site(s). – Please see Tables 1 & 2 - Regulated Movements of asbestos.

Part 2 - Unlawful storage and deposit of asbestos over past 15 years. (due to retention and disposal requirements only 7 years of data held for Part 2).

The Department has decided not to disclose all the information as it considers regulations 12(4)(b), 12(4)(a), 12(5)(e), 12(3) and 13(1) to be engaged. The information held in a reportable format which can be disclosed is attached in Table 3.

1) The location (by both name and coordinate). Please see Table 3.

This information falls under Regulation 12(5)(e), where the Department is legislatively required to consider the public interest in disclosure. An associated Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached for your information at Annex A.

Furthermore, some of the information held constitutes personal data of which you are not the data subject. In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at Annex B and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under EIR exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld under regulations 12(3) and 13(1).

Regulation 12(4)(a) also applies as some of this information (coordinate) is not held. The Department has provided details of the nearest town and the council area for each incident (Table 3).

2) The quantities of asbestos located in each instance. Please see Table 3.

3) The source of the asbestos, if known (e.g. from former industrial sites nearby)

The current reporting system does not produce a report for this information. This would require resources to review the approx. 200 entries and falls under Regulation 12(4)(b) manifestly unreasonable.

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



4) Details of any action taken to remove the asbestos and/or to mitigate any environmental or public health dangers posed by the site(s). Please see Table 3.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department.

If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

