



Our reference: **DAERA/24-205**

██████████ Via email

████████████████████

Water Management Unit  
17 Antrim Road  
Tonagh  
Lisburn  
BT28 3AL

Email: [WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Date: 21 May 2024

Dear ██████████

## **Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 29 January 2024 which sought the following queries associated with the lagoons at W&J Chambers, Drumahoe:

### **Q1**

**That the final report regarding the structural stability of the Chambers site addressed River Faughan Angler's (RFA) concerns, not only about the settlement lagoons, but also about the extensive landfilled embankment along the entire length of the Chambers site where it abuts the River Faughan and Tributaries Special Area of Conservation?**

No the landfilled embankment is not within scope of the report

### **Q2**

#### **If not, why not?**

Subsequent to the NIPSO investigation and in line with recommendations made by NIPSO report (17453) a complete reassessment of all the information held by NIEA was undertaken in relation to the structural integrity of the lagoons and their suitability to remain. A copy of the April 2020 Review Report was provided to you

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in line with the NIPSO recommendation. From this review it was recommended that a report should be undertaken by an engineer to examine the structural integrity of the lagoons. Based upon the NIPSO recommendation and subsequent Review Report the engineers report provides a combined Ground Investigation Report and Slope Stability Assessment Report of the 3 lagoons within W&J Chambers site.

### **Q3**

**That the Department is satisfied that the Article 17 Works Notices served on 28 February 2023 have now been complied with?**

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency continues to be actively engaged with W&J Chambers and I can confirm W&J Chambers are taking action in moving towards compliance with the Works Notices.

### **Q4**

**If so, can these Works Notices and the final report now be released to RFA?**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds some the information you requested. However, the Department has decided not to disclose some of the information you requested as it considers the following regulation to be engaged.

Regulation 12(5)(e)- commercial sensitivity - In these instances, 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.

A copy of what can be released is attached in **Annex B**.

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](mailto: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, Ballykelly House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

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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 contact information]

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