

## LAWFULNESS, FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY TEST

DAERA/26-119 - Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)

### Request Details:

Any correspondence from Mr Colum Eastwood MP or his office to DAERA/NIEA relating to the Atlantic-Hub project and/or the 110 kV connection/extension at Coolkeeragh over the period 1 January 2022 to the date of search.

### Brief description of the Personal Data falling within the scope of the request

The name, telephone number and email address of individuals outside the Department and individuals inside the Department.

## LAWFULNESS

### Please identify the lawful basis for processing

Personal data is processed when it is lawfully disclosed in response to an FOI / EIR request.

The lawful basis for processing are set out in Article 6 of the GDPR and the ICO expects at least one of two lawful bases (Consent / Legitimate Interest) to apply before the personal data held can be disclosed.

- Consent:** This will apply when the data subject(s) clear consent exists that allows you to disclose the personal data falling within the scope of this request.
- Legitimate interests:** the processing is necessary for the Department's legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party that overrides the data subject(s) rights and freedoms, particularly their right to privacy.

### Consideration of Legitimate Interests

#### 1. PURPOSE

As the disclosure of personal data under FOIA or EIR is a disclosure to the world at large, doing so on the strength of a requester's private interests alone could constitute a disproportionate and unwarranted level of interference with the data subject(s) rights and freedoms, particularly their right to privacy and family life under the Human Rights Act 1998.

#### 2. NECESSITY

The right of access under FOI or EIR does not in itself constitute a **pressing social need**.

The Department has considered and not identified any such need for the data subject's right to privacy to be interfered with.

## CONCLUSION

Having considered all of the information contained within this test, the Department has established that, on balance, there is no lawful basis for the disclosure of third party personal data falling within the scope of the request [of which the requester is not the data subject] except for the original letter received from Colum Eastwood MLA.



