

**Environment Marine & Fisheries
Group**
Marine & Fisheries Division



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

An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'
**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: **DAERA/26-180**

[REDACTED]

Marine & Fisheries Division

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19 March 2026

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 02 March 2026 in which you sought the following information.

- *Could the department tell me how many times in the past five years it has used powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA), broken down by year and general purpose for which these powers were used.*

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that no powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 have been used in the past five years; accordingly, the figure for each year is zero.

As part of these checks, it was identified that RIPA awareness training was delivered to a small number of staff in 2024; this was for awareness purposes only and did not result in any RIPA authorisations being sought or granted, nor in any operational use of RIPA powers during the period covered by your request.

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

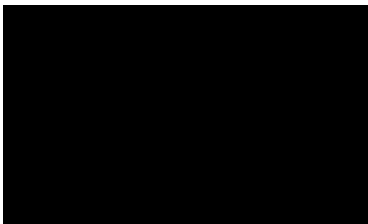
If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



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,



DAERA Inland Fisheries

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