

Our Reference **DAERA/26-149**

██████████ Via Email

██████████  
20 March 2026

Water Catchment Unit  
NIEA Lisburn  
17 Antrim Road  
Tonagh  
Lisburn  
BT28 3AL  
Telephone: 0800 80 76 60  
Email: [WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Dear ██████████,

### Environmental Information Request 2004

Thank you for your request for information received by the Department on 30 January 2026 which sought the following information:

**Water Pollution Incident Enquiry - 227 Battleford Road, Benburb BT71 7NN – Information held relating to NIEA Incidents WR 7/23/0016, WR 7/24/0089, WR 7/24/0104, WR 7/24/0140 and WR 7/24/0153.**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information requested. Investigations detailed in the request are ongoing and considered as if 'sub judice'. Therefore, the Department has decided to withhold this information under **Regulation 12(5)(b)**.

Under Regulation 12(5)(b), the Department is excepted from the duty to disclose the information on the grounds that the course of justice could be adversely affected without exception and to prevent interference with any legal proceedings.

The appropriate public interest test has been completed, attached as **Annex A**.

Where water pollution is confirmed and the environmental impact is deemed to be of a High or Medium Severity and a polluter has been identified, the Department seeks to pursue enforcement action under the Water (NI) Order 1999 in line with the following: [DAERA Enforcement Policy](#).

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 way 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, 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 name]

[Redacted title]

**NIEA Water Pollution Response and Enforcement Team  
Water Catchment Unit**

