

Public Interest Test – EIR

Reference Number – DAERA/26-268

Requested Information

“any information or records held by DAERA regarding environmental issues or incidents associated with the following property:

- **Address: 99 Drumnaquoile Road, Ballynahinch, Co. Down, BT24 8QS**
- **Relevant Timeframe: Approximately 2008–2009, 2011 (Conviction)**

Specifically, any records of inspections, reports of contamination, enforcement notices, or general environmental correspondence linked to this site during that period”

Exemption / Exception under consideration

12(4) ..., a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that –

(A) the information sought is not held.

Reasons why the public interest would favour disclosure:

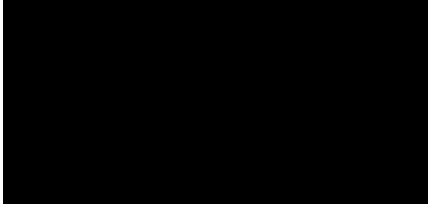
- The Department’s default position is to disclose information held unless an absolute exemption applies.
- Openness and transparency in the delivery of the Department’s operations regarding its investigations and any subsequent follow up actions.
- The Public need to have confidence in the Department to carry out its duty and investigate any reported allegations of wrongdoing in keeping with the Department’s internal and external policies.
- The information may demonstrate publicly that investigations have, or have not, been carried out properly.

Reasons why the public interest would favour withholding

- The Department does not hold the information therefore there is nothing to disclose

Conclusion

Following consideration of the Public Interest Test the Department has decided that on balance, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information due to the fact that there is nothing to disclose.



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