

Reference Number: DAERA/26-332  
Request Details:  
Information requested on asbestos sites  
in Northern Ireland



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](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

**Northern Ireland Environment  
Agency  
WIPRED**

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████████████████████

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10 June 2026

Dear ██████████

### **Environmental Information Regulation 2004**

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 15 May 2026 which sought the following information:

**I'm looking for information regarding the number of sites in Northern Ireland that have asbestos on them.**

**Covering the 10 year period 2016-2025, please provide the following information for each such site that NIEA is aware of:**

**Location of site - please provide the nearest street and postcode.**

**Date at which NIEA became aware of it:**

**Amount of asbestos discovered:**

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.

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**Action taken by NIEA to date:**

**How much of clean up costs have been recouped:**

**Is asbestos still on site?**

**Date by which all asbestos removed from site.**

**Note: Previous information was released for 2015-2024 (attached). However the location was not provided to the street and postcode level. In this request I am also asking for the date by which all asbestos removed from site.**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested.

While there is a strong public interest in transparency regarding asbestos contamination, disclosure of precise site addresses and postcodes would be likely to adversely affect public safety by increasing the risk of disturbance of hazardous materials (Regulation 12(5)(a)) and, in many cases, involve the disclosure of personal data (Regulation 13).

Regulation 13 (personal data) is an exception under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and is subject to. Disclosure of this information would contravene the data protection principles set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.

As a result the Department will not release the address and postcode details of these sites. Please see the attached Public Interest test for Regulation 12(5)(a) (**Annex B**) and Lawful Processing and Fairness Test for Regulation 13 (**Annex C**) covering this decision. The Department has provided a general site location along with Council area for the sites.

I can confirm that the Department has not recouped any clean up costs it has incurred when engaging their contactors to remediate waste. When a land owner can be identified it is them that incur any costs involved with clean up.

A spreadsheet containing the information that can be disclosed within the scope of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 is provided at **Annex A**.

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.

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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, 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,



**Environmental Crime Unit**

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