

Reference Number: DAERA/26-364
Request Details:
Sediments in Millisle Lagoon



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department of

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

**Environment Marine and Fisheries
Group**
Marine and Fisheries Division

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E-mail: marine.inforequests@daera-ni.gov.uk

02 June 2026

Dear ██████████

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 22 May 2026 as detailed below.

Has anyone ever sampled and tested the sediment in the bottom of the lagoon? In case it's disturbed kicking up bacteria?

Under Regulation 12(4)(a) the Department is excepted from the duty to disclose the information on the grounds that the information sought is not held.

Following a search of all relevant systems we have not found the information sought.

DAERA Marine and Fisheries Division does not routinely monitor marine sediments at or near Millisle. The nearest marine sediment sampling sites to Millisle are in Belfast Lough.

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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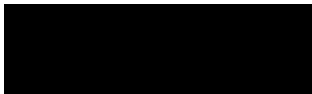
Under the Quality of Bathing Water Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 Millisle bathing water, at the Millisle Lagoon, is sampled for bathing water quality during the official bathing season (June 1st – September 15th). In the last five years the Millisle bathing water has been classified as having excellent bathing water quality, except in 2023 when it was classified as having ‘Good’ status. See <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/bathing-water-quality> for more information.

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 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 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,



Marine Monitoring and Assessment Branch

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