

Reference Number: DAERA/26-382
Request Details:
Request relates to ECU investigation
into a site on the Bonds Glen Road



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Depairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Environmental Crime Unit

The Committee

Bonds Glen Environmental Group
bondsgleneg@gmail.com

Environmental Crime Unit
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Department of Agriculture, Environment and
Rural Affairs (DAERA)
17 Antrim Road
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT28 3AL

Telephone: 0300 2007856

E-mail: EnvironmentalCrime@daera-ni.gov.uk

02 July 2026

Dear Committee,

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 04 June 2026
that sought the following information:

**“I write under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and request
disclosure of environmental information held by DAERA/NIEA relating to
reports made concerning lands at and around Bonds Glen Road, Co.
Londonderry, and the subsequent involvement of the Environmental Crime
Unit.**

**For the period 24 September 2025 to 31 January 2026, please provide copies of
the following:**

SITE INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION RECORDS

**All records relating to inspections, assessments and investigations
undertaken by Environmental Crime Unit personnel, including but not limited
to:**

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.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®
We invest in people Standard

- Site inspection reports
- Site assessment forms
- Officer notebook entries
- Site visit notes
- Site visit logs
- Site sketches
- GPS records
- Measurements
- Internal file notes
- CLUE records, including any records relating to CLUE Event 66

PHOTOGRAPHIC, VIDEO AND MAPPING EVIDENCE

Copies of all photographs, videos, drone imagery, maps, aerial imagery and other visual material created, obtained, reviewed or relied upon by Environmental Crime Unit personnel.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

All communications relating to this matter between:

- Environmental Crime Unit
- NIEA Wildlife Team
- Water Quality personnel
- DAERA officials
- Derry City and Strabane District Council

including:

- Emails
- Internal referrals
- Memoranda
- File notes
- Meeting notes
- Teams messages or equivalent internal communications

DECISION-MAKING RECORDS

All records explaining, supporting or recording the basis upon which the Environmental Crime Unit concluded that no further action was required.

This includes:

- Recommendations
- Assessments
- Decision logs
- Internal reports
- Draft conclusions
- Final conclusions
- Briefing papers

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.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED

Copies of all complaints, photographs, maps, reports, planning references and supporting information supplied to or considered by Environmental Crime Unit personnel before conclusions were reached.

POST-ENFORCEMENT NOTICE REVIEW

Following the issue of Enforcement Notices by Derry City and Strabane District Council, please provide copies of any records showing whether DAERA/NIEA reviewed, reconsidered, reassessed or otherwise examined its earlier conclusions.

This should include:

- Internal reviews
- Correspondence
- Assessments
- File notes
- Communications with Planning authorities

If any information is withheld, please identify the relevant exception relied upon and provide details of the public interest considerations applied.

This request is made pursuant to the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Should any part of the request be considered excessively broad please contact me so that reasonable assistance may be provided in refining the request in accordance with Regulation 9.”

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

The information held which can be disclosed is attached at **Annex A**.

Some information has been withheld under Regulation 13(1) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, as it constitutes personal data. Disclosure of this information would contravene the principles of the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018, in particular the requirement that personal data be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently. The redacted material includes names and contact details of individuals, including members of staff and persons external to the Department, who are not acting in a senior public-facing capacity and would not reasonably expect their personal data to be disclosed in response to a request of this nature.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at **Annex B** and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under EIR exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

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.

Under Regulation 12(4)(a) the Department is excepted from the duty to disclose information on the grounds that the information sought is not held. No information is held in relation to "Post Enforcement Notice Review" as no such review was carried out by ECU.

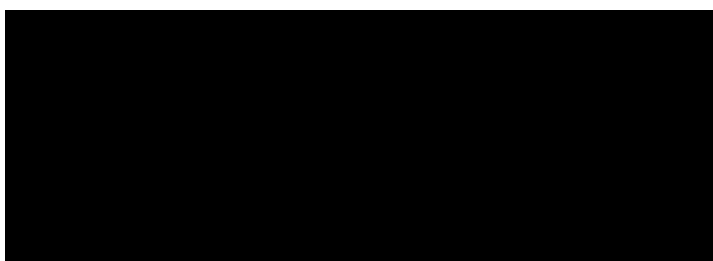
Following review, CLUE Event 66 has been excluded from the information considered for disclosure. The event relates to a separate investigation adjacent to Larne and is not connected to the Bonds Glen Road investigation that is the subject of this request. As such, the information falls outside the scope of the request, and no further consideration has been given to its disclosure under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

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,



Environmental Crime Unit

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.