



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

Our reference: DAERA 26/458

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request - Fit and
Proper Person / Operator Suitability
Reviews – PPC Permit P0145/06A (Lisbane
Landfill)

Waste Permitting Team
Lisburn NIEA
17 Antrim Road
Lisburn
BT28 3AL

Tel: 02890569596

Email: daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk

4th September 2026

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 07 July 2026

EIR Information Requested:

I request recorded environmental information held by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency concerning any consideration, review or reassessment of the suitability of the holder of PPC Permit P0145/06A (Lisbane Landfill) during the period 11 November 2022 to the present.

For the avoidance of doubt, this request is not seeking disclosure of commercially confidential information provided by the operator. Rather, it seeks recorded information establishing whether such reviews took place, when they occurred, what prompted them, and their outcome.

I recognise that some records may contain commercially confidential information or other information potentially subject to an exception under the Regulations. Where that is the case, I request disclosure of the remaining information with only those passages that are genuinely exempt redacted. If any information is withheld, please identify the relevant exception relied upon and explain why partial disclosure is not possible where an entire document is withheld.

I request the following recorded information:

1. Reviews of operator suitability

Records sufficient to identify each occasion on which NIEA considered, reviewed or reassessed whether the holder of PPC Permit P0145/06A remained an appropriate operator, including any consideration of:

- the Fit and Proper Person requirement;
- operator suitability; or
- any equivalent assessment under the PPC permitting regime concerning the continued appropriateness of the permit holder.

2. Chronology

For each such review or reassessment, records sufficient to identify:

- the date on which it commenced;
- the date on which it concluded (if applicable); and
- whether it remains ongoing.

3. Trigger for the review

Records sufficient to identify the event, circumstance or regulatory issue that prompted each review or reassessment.

4. Outcome

Records sufficient to identify the outcome of each review or reassessment, including whether NIEA concluded that:

- no further action was required;
- regulatory intervention was required;
- changes to the permitting arrangements were considered; or
- any other regulatory response was considered appropriate.

5. No review undertaken

If no review or reassessment of operator suitability was undertaken during the period requested, please confirm whether NIEA holds any recorded information explaining why no such review was considered necessary.

For each category, please confirm whether information is held and, where held, disclose it. Where information is withheld in whole or in part, please identify the specific exception relied upon, provide the corresponding public interest assessment, and disclose the remainder of the record where it is reasonably capable of being separated from exempt information.

If you consider any aspect of this request capable of refinement, I would be grateful for advice and assistance under Regulation 9 before refusing the request.

Response:

As explained in the information sheet enclosed with the acknowledgement letter, under certain conditions, the Department has the right to refuse to respond to a request for information.

NIEA has received a significant number of complex, extensive and often repetitive requests for information relating to the Lisbane site near Tandragee. Many of these requests seek similar or substantially the same information that has previously been requested and responded to.

The volume and complexity of these requests have placed a disproportionate burden on departmental resources and are significantly impacting the ability of NIEA staff to carry out their statutory functions. In particular, the time required to identify, retrieve, review and prepare responses to requests concerning the Lisbane site is affecting the Waste Permitting Team's capacity to fulfil its other statutory duties and regulatory responsibilities. A public interest test is included for your information, in Appendix A.

NIEA has already released a substantial amount of information relating to the Lisbane site into the public domain. This information is available through the DAERA Publication Scheme and can be accessed at the following link:

[DAERA Publication Scheme | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

In light of the significant volume of information already published and the ongoing impact that repeated requests are having on the department's resources, NIEA will not provide further responses to requests that seek information already published, previously released, or that substantially duplicate earlier requests. Requesters are therefore encouraged to consult the information available through the DAERA Publication Scheme in the first instance.

Kind regards,
Waste Permitting Team

APPENDIX A

Public Interest Test – Environmental Information Regulations

Reference Number – DAERA/26-458

Requested Information:

I request the following recorded information:

1. Reviews of operator suitability

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- the Fit and Proper Person requirement;
- operator suitability; or
- any equivalent assessment under the PPC permitting regime concerning the continued appropriateness of the permit holder.

2. Chronology

For each such review or reassessment, records sufficient to identify:

- the date on which it commenced;
- the date on which it concluded (if applicable); and
- whether it remains ongoing.

3. Trigger for the review

Records sufficient to identify the event, circumstance or regulatory issue that prompted each review or reassessment.

4. Outcome

Records sufficient to identify the outcome of each review or reassessment, including whether NIEA concluded that:

- no further action was required;
- regulatory intervention was required;
- changes to the permitting arrangements were considered; or
- any other regulatory response was considered appropriate.

5. No review undertaken

If no review or reassessment of operator suitability was undertaken during the period requested, please confirm whether NIEA holds any recorded information explaining why no such review was considered necessary.

For each category, please confirm whether information is held and, where held, disclose it. Where information is withheld in whole or in part, please identify the specific exception relied upon, provide the corresponding public interest assessment, and disclose the remainder of the record where it is reasonably capable of being separated from exempt information.

If you consider any aspect of this request capable of refinement, I would be grateful for advice and assistance under Regulation 9 before refusing the request.

Exemption / Exceptions under consideration

Regulation 12(4)(b)

- **Manifestly unreasonable**

Reasons why the public interest would favour disclosure:

- Everyone has the right to access environmental information.
- Disclosure of the information would provide greater detail on the regulator's decision making process in withholding information.

Reasons why the public interest would favour withholding:

- Complying with the volume of information requested would apply an unjustified level of disruption to staff already working in difficult circumstances due to already busy workloads.

Conclusion

Following consideration of the Public Interest Test, the Department has decided that it would not be in the public interest to completely fulfil the request made by the requestor. The Department considers this to be manifestly unreasonable based on the burden of dealing with the request and consequent diversion of resources in dealing with this query.

Waste Permitting