

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: DPIMB advice & CEO Timeline - EIR & FOI - P Mannus - DAERA/26-358 and DAERA/26-372
Date: 03 June 2026 14:30:00
Attachments: [FW FOI request.msg](#)
[image001.png](#)
[CEO Timeline - FOI - P Mannus - DAERA 26-372.tr5](#)
[CEO Timeline - FOI - P Mannus - DAERA 26-372.DOCX](#)

[REDACTED]

The purpose of this email is to provide you with some background in relation to an information request which was received by NIEA General Enquires on 17 March 2026 and not responded to.

Background

It would appear there has been a logging error where [REDACTED] drafted a letter of clarification on 1 April 2026, converted it to a pdf but there is no record of the reply being issued. The correspondent Mr Mannus has subsequently emailed NIEA General Enquiries on 22 May 2026 to seek an explanation as to why we have not responded. Attached is the email trail of this case.

As part of my investigations into this matter, I have provided you with a decision log (attached) outlining the flow of traffic in relation to this correspondence – record AE1/26/1614624. You will note that this was being managed by [REDACTED] and, given it was not logged, the mechanism for our weekly FOI/EIR updates to track cases was missed.

To progress this matter swiftly we have taken advice from DPIMB and [REDACTED] clarified the original information request should be logged with DPIMB and dealt with in accordance with normal processes and procedures. In addition, I am proposing to treat the email of 22 May as Business as Usual correspondence and apologise for the oversight of non response indicating a logging error. A separate FOI letter will issue with regards to his request for names of individuals involved in this case.

I am therefore proposing:

1. We issue an EIR response letter which advises that the original request has been formulated in too general a manner and apologise for the late response. This letter will also include any advice which we can provide to assist with a future response – note CC&L comments where they have suggested “As a first step I would suggest that Mr Mannus is asked to provide planning references, the names of the particular wind farms or more locational information to enable his request to be fully considered.” - AE1/26/1556438. DPIMB advised we should manage the expectation of being able to provide all requested information in our response.
2. The email from the 22 May 2026 will be responded to separately as BAU correspondence. In this response we will apologise for the oversight and note that his request for information with regards to names will be dealt with as a separate FOI request.
3. Noting [REDACTED] comments on procedure I am also proposing moving forward that all information requests will now be logged with DPIMB upon receipt who will return to NIEA if we are the lead Department providing a response. I would also recommend that [REDACTED] is advised of this process, given it is a change to previous advice she has been given. This will greatly reduce the risk of this oversight happening again.
4. In addition, I would suggest as lessons learned from this case that the Chief Executive reissues the memo of the 11 May 2026 to NIEA staff and remind colleagues of their respective duties with

regards to information requests following discussion on Wed 10th June with Richard, G5s and G6s.

Thanks,



 | **NIEA Chief Executive's Office**

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)
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EXT



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