

Our Reference: DAERA/26-530

Water Catchment Unit

NIEA Lisburn

17 Antrim Road

Tonagh

Lisburn

BT28 3AL

Reply via email

Telephone: 0800 80 70 60

10 September 2026

Email: WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk

Dear

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your environmental information request received by the Department on 4 August 2026, with further contact with Mr. Brian McVeigh on 11 August and 14 August 2026, where you sought the following information on water pollution incidents impacting the Camstroan Burn at Drumnagee Road, Bushmills:

- **Appropriate enforcement action**
- **Corrective measures to prevent incident reoccurrence**

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you have requested. Please see the table 1 overpage for water pollution incident data relating to the Camstroan Burn, Bushmills.

Reference Number	Title	Severity	Source	Enforcement Action
WR 3/18/0082	Poor Discharge to Camstroan Burn, Bushmills	Low	Domestic	Advisory Letter Issued
WR 3/21/0517	Impact on Camstroan Burn, Bushmills	Low	Unable to Confirm Polluter	No Enforcement
WR 3/25/0612	Foam in Camstroan Burn, Bushmills	No Pollution Found	N/A	No Enforcement

Two of the water pollution incidents referred to above were classified as having a low Severity environmental impact, and in line with the Departmental Enforcement Policy, no prosecution was pursued.

Incident WR 3/25/0612 was determined to be naturally occurring foam and was thus recorded as no pollution found. Most cases of water pollution reported to NIEA are, following investigation, found to be unsubstantiated or of Low Severity which would not reach the threshold for formal enforcement action. In the case of Low Severity incidents, NIEA ensures that the pollution is stopped and provides advice to minimise the risk of recurrence.

NIEA seeks to undertake enforcement action that is proportionate to the significance of the offence. This includes consideration of the level of environmental harm, the impact on communities, the level of financial benefit arising from the offence(s) or the regulatory costs avoided.

Formal enforcement action is normally considered for incidents having a Medium or High Severity environmental impact where a polluter has been identified. In such cases where it is suspected that a criminal offence has occurred; there is sufficient evidence and it is warranted in line with DAERA's Enforcement Policy, a file may be submitted to the Public Prosecution Service, who review the file and decide whether to direct a prosecution.

Other enforcement actions available to the Department include the issuing of Warning Letters, Notices and breaches of Cross-Compliance for agricultural incidents.



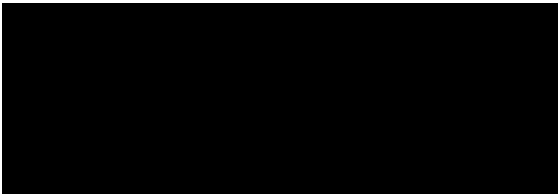
If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

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,



An Agency within the Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Gníomhaireacht de chuid na Roinne
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
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An Agency wí'n the Depairtment o
**Fairmin, Environment
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