

Reference Number: DAERA/26-643

Request Details:

Information relating to the preparation and drafting of the refusal letter and the Annex A Public Interest Test issued in respect of DAERA/26-321.



Department of

**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

**Climate Change, Science and
Innovation Group**
Green Growth and Innovation Division

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Green Growth Initiatives and Innovation
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BT3 9ED

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

16 September 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 21 August 2026.

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.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) gives the public a right of access to official information with the intention of making public bodies more transparent and accountable. The legislation recognises that dealing with some requests can place an unnecessary burden on resources and can also have an impact on the delivery of other vital services.

After giving your request due consideration, the Department has reluctantly concluded that we must refuse to comply with your request as we consider it to be vexatious under Section 14 (1) of the FOIA. This decision has been taken in line with the extant guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office:

[What does section 14\(1\) of FOIA say? | ICO](#)

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As advised in Philip Gilmore's letter to you of 12 August 2026, between the 6 August 2025 and 27 February 2026, you have raised:

- 47 complaints relating to NWP Glenside Rd and Re-Gen Derryboy Road – broken down into 16 for NWP and 31 for Re-Gen.
NB: this figure does not consider the complaints made against the NWP Keady facility or Re-Gen's facilities at Shepherd's Drive or Warrenpoint Port, which are also numerous.
- 23 EIR's/COR's/CEQ's for all Re-Gen and NWP sites.

That is 70 in total over the span on 119 days from one individual, relating to one area of the Department. The Department considers the request forms part of a pattern of obsessive, repetitive, harassing or disruptive correspondence which is placing a disproportionate burden on public resources.

In these instances, the Department is required to consider the public interest in complying with the request. A Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached.

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,

SULS Project Team
Green Growth and Innovation Division

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