

Our Reference: DAERA/26-682

Water Pollution Response &

Enforcement Team

NIEA Lisburn

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23 September 2026

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your environmental information request, received by the Department on 24 August 2026, seeking information in respect of an investigation carried out by NIEA at Castlewood Holiday Park on 14 August 2026.

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

The incident reference is as follows:

Incident	Outcome
WR 3/26/0913	No Pollution Found

A redacted copy of the incident report has been attached as **Annex A**.

The Department considers the following exceptions to be engaged: **Regulation 12(3) and 13(1)**

Some information within the report constitutes personal data of which you are not the data subject. Regulation 12(3) requires that personal data is not disclosed, and Regulation 13 prohibits the disclosure of third-party personal data that would contravene UK GDPR or the DPA 2018. In this instance, releasing the data would be in contravene of principal (1) "personal data should be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to a data subject". This is an absolute exemption;



therefore, no public interest test applies. The Department has, however, carried out the appropriate Lawfulness, Fairness & Transparency Test which is attached as **Annex B**.

Points raised in your correspondence of 24 August 2026, are addressed sequentially below.

Pitch Clarification & Video Evidence

On 4 September 2026, the NIEA Lead Investigating Officer (LIO) for this incident revisited pitch 88 and inspected the decking crawl space beneath where it was observed that an upturned grey pipe protruding out of the side wall of the decking connected to a large 110mm pipe connected to sewer. The corrugated flexible pipe of the submersible pump connects to this system in order to empty the hot tub.

Pitch 26 Diversion

An inspection of the lower rental sites was conducted by the NIEA Inspector to view the holiday park's operations holistically. No departure from industry standards were noted from inspection.

Operational Reality vs. Guided Tours

NIEA's Inspector has many years' experience in water pollution investigation and noted no significant delay between their arrival on site and the inspection carried out.

Post-Inspection Behavioural Changes

Given the fact that Pitch 99's hot tub is being emptied appropriately would suggest a successful regulatory visit by NIEA, where Castlewood Holiday Park management and staff have taken heed of the advice and guidance given. As a discharge of this nature would constitute an incident of Low Severity environmental impact, NIEA will ensure that the pollution is stopped and that advice is provided to minimise the risk of recurrence.

Formal enforcement action, under the Water (NI) Order 1999, is normally only considered for incidents having a High or Medium 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.

Infrastructure Discrepancies

The infrastructure and the procedures are in place to ensure that every relevant pitch on the site has the ability to appropriately pump hot tub wastewater, via the submersible pump connected to a Waven pipe diverted under the decking, to the 110mm foul sewer pipe.

You also requested our written position on the following:

Official Status of Evidence

The videos which you submitted on 13 August 2026 do appear to show inappropriate wastewater disposal. The NIEA Inspector has discussed appropriate practice with site management, and staff onsite, making them aware that future discharges, should they enter a waterway, may constitute an offence under the Water (NI) Order 1999, with potential for enforcement action should significant environmental impact result.



Future Enforcement

A further site visit by the NIEA Inspector on 4 September 2026 confirmed that hot-tub wastewater is being disposed of correctly via the pre-installed foul infrastructure at relevant pitches at the Castlewood Holiday Park. Should you observe further issues at the site, please again report these to the NIEA Incident Hotline on 0800 807060 and/or via the following email address, emergency-pollution@daera-ni.gov.uk

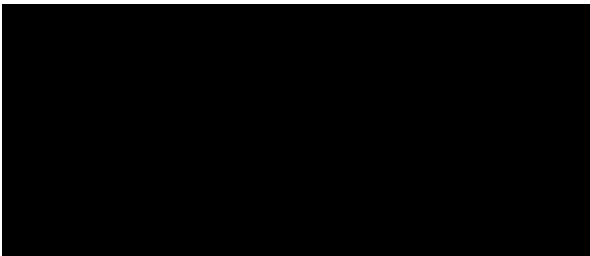
If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

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,



Water Pollution Response & Enforcement Team



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

Gníomhaireacht de chuid na Roinne
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