

Reference Number: DAERA/26-713

Request Details:

Please provide Information for an environmental assessment of 79 Gortgole Road that operates under a Waste Management Licence (ref. LN/10/53).

Waste Industrial Pollution, Regulation and Enforcement Division



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

Waste Regulation Unit
17 Antrim Road,
Tonagh
Lisburn,
Co. Antrim.
BT28 2AL

E-mail: WRU.Queries@daera-ni.gov.uk

Click or tap to enter a date.

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 11 September 2026 which sought the following information:

We are undertaking an environmental assessment of 79 Gortgole Road and understand that it operates under a Waste Management Licence (ref. LN/10/53).

Would you be able to inform us:

1. Whether you are aware of any previous pollution incidents on or within 250 m of the site?
2. Whether there have been any environmental complaints associated with the site's operations and if so, were these investigated?
3. Have you undertaken any compliance visits and if so, are you able to provide any related reports/ information?

Any information you hold for this site, and are able to provide under FOI, would be extremely useful.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

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In relation to question 1: NIEA Land and Groundwater Team have conducted a search of the Historic Land Use Database for land within 250m of 79 Gortgole Road, Portglenone, the results of which are shown in the table below.

Site ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate	Description	Current Use	Other Info	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1930s	1904	1856	1834
USS-130	297248	405402	Waste recycling, treatment and disposal sites: metal recycling sites	Portglenone Auto Parts	WML 04/02 ATF									

For further information, I would direct you to the following freely available sources:

- The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) maintains a Historic Land Use dataset that is available to access and search. It is available from OpenDataNI at: <https://www.opendatani.gov.uk/@department-of-agriculture-environment-and-rural-affairs/historical-landuse-dataset3>, The information is also available from the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland Spatial NI service at: <https://www.spatialni.gov.uk/index.html> (map viewer).
The Historic Land Use dataset includes information on industrial land uses including known landfilling and waste management activities. The dataset is not fully comprehensive but does provide an indication of historic land uses across Northern Ireland that may have caused land to be affected by contamination. Other datasets are available to download from the DAERA Digital Datasets site at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/digital-datasets> . This includes information on water abstraction licence application sites and protected sites.
- Additional relevant information is available from the DAERA Public Registers at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/introduction-public-registers>
This includes information on PPC Permitted Processes and licensed waste management sites. Further information on registered private water supplies in Northern Ireland is available at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/spatial-ni-app-private-water-supplies-registered-drinking-water-inspectorate>
- Specific information on Waste Licences, Permits and Exemptions is available from:

Waste Management Licences

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/waste-management-licensing-public-register>

PPC Waste Permits

<https://public-registers.daera-ni.gov.uk/pollution-prevention-control>

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Waste Management Exemptions

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/exemptions-waste-management-licensing-public-register>

- Additional water-related information including on abstractions, groundwater monitoring and pollution incidents can be found at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/information-requests#toc-0>. This includes the searchable water information request map viewer that allows the user to select the search radius.
- Information on development planning activity in Northern Ireland is available from the Northern Ireland Planning Portal at: [Northern Ireland Public Register \(planningsystemni.gov.uk\)](http://planningsystemni.gov.uk). The site requires registration. This will include details on any site investigations and risk assessment / remediation work completed in support of planning applications and can be searched using address, post code etc.
- Historical maps of Northern Ireland are available to view at: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/search-proni-historical-maps-viewer>. These maps should provide information on historical activity at the site and in the surrounding area.

In relation to questions 2 and 3 and the supplementary request for any information held for the site: NIEA Waste Management Licensing Team contacted you on 24 September 2026, to request that you narrow the timeframe for the information sought. This request was reiterated by email on 25 and 28 September 2026. You were advised that NIEA holds hundreds of potentially relevant documents, for this address dating back at least 18 years and that, without a more specific timeframe, it would not be possible to identify and provide the information requested. You also confirmed that you wished to request information for LN/10/53 and all related licences.

In your email of 28 September 2026, you confirmed that the timeframe could not be narrowed.

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. Under Regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR, the department may refuse to comply with a request for information where it is considered to be manifestly unreasonable.

Regarding questions 2 and 3 and the supplementary request for any information held for the site, the department has determined that the cost to comply with your request to be **£2,850**. A breakdown of how this figure was reached is in the table below:

Potential records falling within scope.	At 5 minutes per record to review. Minutes / 60 = Hours	Total estimated cost. Hours X £25/hr
1368 records	114 hours	£2,850

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 as Annex 1.

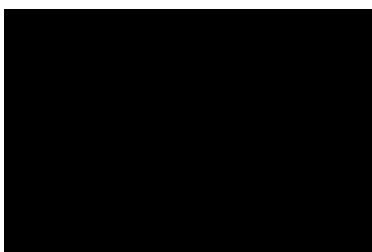
You may wish to narrow the scope of your request, e.g. to a shorter time period.

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 Internal 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,



Waste Licensing Team

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