

Reference Number: **DAERA/26-772**

Request Details:

Minutes of Ministerial meetings April
2026 to June 2026



Department of

**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Depairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

EMFG Executive Support
303 Airport Rd W,
Belfast
BT3 9ED

E-mail: EMFG.InformationRequests@daera-ni.gov.uk

16 October 2026

Dear [REDACTED],

**Environmental Information Regulation 2004 and Freedom of Information Act
2000**

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 05 October 2026 that sought the following information:

Provide the minutes of ministerial meetings with the following people that took place between 1 April and 30 June 2026:

Hilary Benn

Hon Chris Thomas MHK, Isle of Man Minister for The Treasury

Dr Derek Evans, Senior Scientific Officer AFBI, leading on Eel work programme.etc
at same meeting

Lee Reynolds, Commissioner for the Ulster Scots and Ulster British Tradition.

Pól Deeds, Irish Language Commissioner.

Mark Horton

Gregory Campbell, MP and Foyle MLAs about Mobuoy

Michelle McIlveen and DUP MLAs

PSNI Assistant Chief Constable Ryan Henderson Responsible for Local Policing
Command

UFU

Chris Brown on masterplan for airport

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contact the Department via the Next Generation Text
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The list of names that you provided above matches those listed by the Department to the open data portal for ministerial meetings between April 2026 and June 2026. The Department's search has been restricted to those names listed by you.

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

The information held which can be disclosed to you is attached as documents DAERA/26-772 1 to 17.

Some of the information you requested has been treated under the Environmental Information Regulation 2004 and some under Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Department has decided not to disclose some of the information you requested as it considers the following EIR exceptions and FOI exemptions to be engaged.

EIR Regulation 12(3) and 13(1) of EIR 2004 – Personal Data of which you are not the data subject

FOI Section 35(1)(a) – Formulation or development of government policy

FOI Section 43(2) – Information where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice commercial interests

Information you requested that has been treated under FOIA includes the meeting in relation to the Veterinary Medicines Working Group Meeting.

All other information identified has been treated under EIR.

Some of the information requested falls under the appropriate EIR exceptions and FOIA exemptions.

Some of the information contains commercially sensitive information and falls under the appropriate FOIA exemptions.

Some of the information identified relates to policy in development and has been considered under the appropriate FOIA exemptions.

In these instances, the Department is legislatively required to consider the public interest in disclosure. An associated Public Interest Test has been conducted and is attached for your information at Annex A.

Some of the information held constitutes personal data of which you are not the data subject. In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

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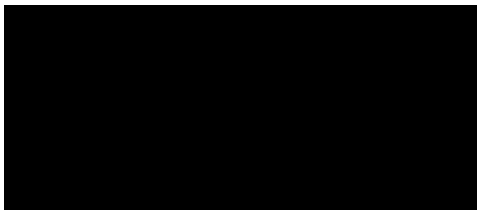
The Department has considered this element within the test attached at Annex B and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under EIR exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

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,



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