

## **EIR Request (received 05 October 2022) - Reference: DFI/2022-0323**

Many years ago (1970's), the front boundary of the properties here at Ivybridge Cottages went right out the road verge.

The authorities, in the interest of safety, created the current lay-by by taking away some of each properties front garden.

Could you please supply any information in relation to the creation of this lay-by which you may hold, e.g. maps, plans and any other written documents?

## **Response (issued 12 October 2022)**

Thank you for your email dated 5 October 2022 requesting under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), information held by the Department. You requested the following about the lay-by in front of Ivybridge Cottages, Barnmeen, Rathfriland, Newry:

- *information in relation to the creation of this lay-by which held, e.g. maps, plans and any other written documents.*

In considering your request on behalf of the Department I have determined that the information requested falls under the Environment Information Regulations 2004 (EIR), as opposed to FOI. Section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act specifically excludes from consideration under that Act requests for what is deemed to be environmental information. EIR gives rights of public access environmental information held by public authorities.

A guide explaining the Environmental Information Regulations can be found at:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-environmental-information-regulations/what-are-the-eir/>.

In response to your request, I can confirm that the Department for Infrastructure does hold information related to your request.

As EIR relates to public rights of access to information, I must consider whether information is suitable for release to the world at large, and not solely to the applicant. I have examined the information you requested and carried out a public interest test to determine whether this information is suitable for release to the public and can advise that this information is suitable for release.

Please see attached information held by the Department; DfI adoption records for this layby following construction by the NIHE.

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