

EIR Request (received 06 October 2022) - Reference: DFI/2022-0329

A6 Dualling - Drumhoe to Dungiven.

1. What is the expected total final budget for this project?
2. How much in total has been paid to date to the main contractor?
3. How much in total payments are outstanding to the main contractor with breakdown?
4. A breakdown of materials and supplies which cannot be secured due to supply chain issues.
5. A full breakdown of any outstanding works to be completed in accordance with the project programme, with anticipated completion dates.
6. A full breakdown of any outstanding defects or snags to be remedied or completed, with anticipated completion dates.

Response (issued 01 November 2022)

Thank you for your email dated 6 October 2022, requesting under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), information held by this office in relation to the A6 Durmahoe to Dungiven dualling scheme, specifically:

- 1. What is the expected total final budget for this project?*
- 2. How much in total has been paid to date to the main contractor?*
- 3. How much in total payments are outstanding to the main contractor with breakdown?*
- 4. A breakdown of materials and supplies which cannot be secured due to supply chain issues.*
- 5. A full breakdown of any outstanding works to be completed in accordance with the project programme, with anticipated completion dates.*
- 6. A full breakdown of any outstanding defects or snags to be remedied or completed, with anticipated completion dates.*

In considering your request, on behalf of the Department, I have determined that the information requested falls under the aegis of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, as opposed to the FOI Act 2000. 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 does hold information relating to your request, however some details cannot be disclosed. In relation to the issues you raise in your letter, the Department has advised the following:

1. The estimated cost of the A6 Dungiven to Drumahoe scheme is in the region of £220 million, including land acquisition;
2. The requested information is not disclosed under the exception provided under EIR by Regulation 12(5) (e): commercial or industrial information. I am satisfied that the public interest is best served by withholding this information;
3. The requested information is not disclosed under the exception provided under EIR by Regulation 12(5) (e): commercial or industrial information. I am satisfied that the public interest is best served by withholding this information;
4. The Department does not hold this information;
5. The Department does not hold this information; and
6. The Department does not hold this information.

Please note that, in common with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 relate to recorded information held by public authorities. While the Department seeks to be helpful, and provide requested information whenever possible, it is only obliged to provide information it already has in recorded form. The legislation does not require the Department to create new information or engage in additional research in an effort to address specific questions.

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