

EIR Request (received 30 June 2025) - Reference: DFI/2025-0293

I would request, on behalf of Lower Oldpark Community Association and under the provisions of the FOI Act and the EIR, the following information:

- The date(s) on which weed spraying of public realm in the Lower Oldpark neighbourhood in North Belfast was carried out during the spring/ summer of 2025 or, if this weeds spraying hasn't been carried out at the date of this email, the date(s) on which the work is programmed to be carried out during the summer of 2025.

Response (issued 29 July 2025)

Thank you for your email dated 30 June 2025 on behalf of Lower Oldpark Community Association requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) and EIR, the following information relating to weed treatment in the Lower Oldpark area of North Belfast:

The date(s) on which weed spraying of public realm in the Lower Oldpark neighbourhood in North Belfast was carried out during the spring/summer of 2025 or, if this weeds spraying hasn't been carried out at the date of this email, the date(s) on which the work is programmed to be carried out during the summer of 2025.

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 to environmental information held by public authorities.

A guide explaining the Environmental Information Regulations can be found at: [Guide to the Environmental Information Regulations](#).

Our environmental contractor has commenced the scheduled weed spraying programme across Belfast. However, the Lower Oldpark area has not yet received weed treatment this season.

It is, however, anticipated that all areas scheduled for treatment in the North Belfast area will be completed by the end of July 2025. It typically takes around two weeks following treatment for the vegetation to visibly die back.

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