

## **EIR Request (received 13 February 2019) - Reference: DFI/2019-0063**

Under the Freedom of Information act please could I request a full list of all the current projects, main contractors, consultants, sub-contractors & suppliers (including postal address/post code and office telephone number details which is already in the public domain) that are or have been involved with Water and Environmental Management Framework (WEM).

## **Response (issued 13 March 2019)**

Thank you for your email of 13 February 2019, requesting a list of all the current projects, main contractors, consultants, sub-contractors & suppliers that are or have been involved with Water and Environmental Management Framework (WEM).

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 (EIR), as opposed to Freedom of Information Act 2000. Your request is for information that relates to activities, policies or plans that affect the environment. Section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act specifically excludes from consideration under that Act requests for what is deemed to be environmental information.

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/>.

The Environmental Information Regulations established general public rights of access to environmental information held by public authorities, similar to the general rights established under FOI, information provided in response to a request is considered to have been placed in the public domain. There is no provision for privileged access to information, it may either be released to the World at large, or it must be withheld. Any information provided in response to an information request (either FOI or EIR) is considered to have been placed in the public domain.

In response to your request, DfI Rivers currently has projects that include a CCTV survey pack of culverted networks at:

Lough Neagh;  
Moneymore;  
Fermanagh; and

Coleraine.

The contractor for all these projects is Environmental Techniques (Part of AEGION group), 1 Flush Park, Lisburn, BT28 3DX. Tel: 028 9267 7500. There are no sub-contractors, consultants or suppliers.

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