

EIR Request (received 03 June 2019) - Reference: DFI/2019-0213

I am writing to seek information on

- the number of applications made for vehicle damage as a result of road defects within the constituency of North Antrim;
- the number of successful applications for compensation for roads in North Antrim;
- the total value of these successful claims;
- how North Antrim compares in both applications and successful outcomes to other constituencies; and
- a comparison for the above information for the last 5 years.

I would also appreciate, if possible, information/chart/map if possible on the location of the roads to which compensation claims are related.

Response (issued 21 June 2019)

I refer to your email of 11 June 2019 in which you requested information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act about damage to vehicles and compensation paid due to road defects, primarily in the North Antrim area, during the last 5 years. In addition you asked information/chart/map if possible on the location of the roads to which compensation claims are related.

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/>.

In response to your request, you should note that the Department does not record claims according to constituency areas but instead records claims by Section Office area, which broadly align with Council areas. Therefore by way of comparison, I have included in the attachment provided with this response maps showing both constituency areas and section office areas.

The attached table details the number of Vehicle Damage compensation claims received, the number of successful claims and compensation paid, in each of the last five financial years for each Section Office. Compensation figures include both compensation and costs.

Please note that claims received in a financial year are not always concluded in the same financial year. Therefore the figure for any given year may include compensation paid for claims received in prior financial years.

Unfortunately, we are only able to provide the names of roads from which claims for compensation were made for the last 2 years.

Therefore, included with this email I have attached a list of all roads within the two Section Offices covering the North Antrim area, Causeway Coast & Glens (East) and Mid & East Antrim, which relate to claims for compensation since 01 April 2017.

I hope this information addresses all areas of your request.

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