

## **EIR Request (received 20 September 2019) - Reference: DFI/2019-0343**

### **SUBJECT INFORMATION - EM CONTRACT 2010 - 2019 - Northern Division**

Environmental Term Contract:

This is a request under Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) part 5 for information regarding the above contract works using the EIRs Part 1

*Application 3. - (1) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), these Regulations apply to public authorities. (2) For the purposes of these Regulations, environmental information is held by a public authority if the information - (a) is in the authority's possession and has been produced or received by the authority; or (b) is held by another person on behalf of the authority.*

The information requested is as follows -

- The recorded minutes of each meeting agenda, content and discussion either held annually or six monthly between DRD/DfI and the Principal Contractor and or Sub-Contractors regarding the above works/operations on the above contract for years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019 to this date.
- Each annual monetary amount paid to the principle contractor for 'weed control', 'urban and rural grass cutting', 'gully emptying', 'tree/hedge cutting' services within financial years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

### **Response (issued 22 October 2019)**

Thank you for your email dated 20 September 2019, regarding the Northern Division Environmental Term Contract 2010 to 2019, in which you request:

1. The recorded minutes of each meeting agenda, content and discussion between DRD/DfI and the Principal Contractor and or sub-contractors for years 2010 - to date; and
2. Each annual monetary amount paid to the principal contractor for weed control, urban and rural grass cutting, gully emptying and tree/hedge cutting services within financial years 2010/11, 2011 /12, 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Please note in considering your request on behalf of the Department it has been determined that the information requested falls under the aegis of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, as opposed to the FOI 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/>.

Firstly, as this letter is one day past the legislative response timescale, I would apologise on behalf of the Department.

In response to your request I will address your queries in the order that you asked in your correspondence.

1. The recorded minutes of each meeting agenda, content and discussion between DRD/DfI and the Principal Contractor and or sub-contractors for years 2010- to date.

Please find the information requested attached at Appendix A.

2. Each annual monetary amount paid to the principal contractor for weed control, urban and rural grass cutting, gully emptying and tree/hedge cutting services within financial years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Payments to the principal contractor for the activities listed during financial years 2010-2011 to 2013-2014 are detailed in the table below:

<b>Contract Period</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>
<b>Weed Control</b>	£227,334	£201,578	£238,552	£212,722
<b>Grass Cutting</b>	£49,355	£123,996	£127,192	£130,363
<b>Gully Emptying</b>	£120,151	£247,459	£274,576	£307,021
<b>Tree/Hedge Cutting</b>	£16,101	£23,642	£1,056	Nil

I am satisfied that all information that the Department has provided all the information relating to your request that is suitable for disclosure to the public.

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