

Ref: FOI / 6190

04th February 2026

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request - Planning Governance and Public Participation: Copies of any Recorded Information

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

Request

Please provide copies of any recorded information held by your authority since 1 January 2017 which refer to, discuss, or address:

1. The relevance or irrelevance of financial relationships, sponsorship, donations, or other forms of funding provided by planning applicants or developers to community groups, organisations, or representative bodies that participate in statutory planning consultations.
2. Any internal guidance, policy documents, briefing notes, emails, or advice summaries addressing whether such financial relationships may give rise to issues of procedural fairness, representativeness, perceived bias, or integrity of public participation in planning or decision-making processes.
3. Any internal consideration of whether information relating to developer-funded community engagement should be requested, assessed, recorded, or otherwise taken into account as part of managing major, regionally significant, or environmentally sensitive planning applications.
4. Identification of the role(s), team(s), or business area(s) within the authority responsible for determining what information is considered relevant to the integrity of public consultation and decision-making processes.

Derry

C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253
info@derrystrabane.com
www.derrystrabane.com

 Derry City & Strabane District Council
 @dcsdcouncil

This request is limited to information already held and does not require the creation of new records.

Response

Council does not hold the information you have requested in points 1-4.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel: 028 71253253 or email: john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to reconsider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne McCracken
Head of Planning