

Ref: EIR / 6191

04th February 2026

Environmental Information Regulations Request - Planning Governance and Public Participation: Recorded Environmental Information

I refer to your EIR request and respond as follows:

Request

Please provide any recorded environmental information held by your authority which explains how the authority ensures that public participation in environmental decision-making is fair, transparent, and representative, including in relation to:

- A. The assessment and treatment of public representations made in support of, or objection to, environmentally significant planning or consent applications.
- B. Any consideration of factors that may influence, affect, or shape the independence, balance, or representativeness of community participation in such consultations.
- C. The authority's understanding of its obligations under domestic or international frameworks concerning access to information and effective public participation in environmental decision-making.

For the avoidance of doubt, this request is confined to information held by the authority and does not seek the creation of new records.

Response

Council does not hold any other information in relation to points A-C than what is already publicly available in the following documents:

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
 @dcscouncil

- Planning Legislation:

- 1) The Planning Act (NI) 2011
- 2) The Planning (Development Management) Regulations (NI) 2015
- 3) The Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

All planning legislation is currently publicly available at:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/current-planning-legislation>

- Guidance issued by Department of Infrastructure (DFI):

DFI have produced and published a range of Development Management Practice Notes, and a number include details on public participation on the decision-making process. Practice Notes 2, 3, 10, 14 and 16 may be relevant to you and refer to public participation and can be accessed in the following link:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/development-management-practice-notes>

- Guidance from Derry City and Strabane District Council

DCSDC Statement of Community Involvement – Section 5 Development Management):

[https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/ee48920f-8c11-49c5-a77c-d8fd68a5ceb8/SCI-Revised,-2021-\(1\).pdf](https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/ee48920f-8c11-49c5-a77c-d8fd68a5ceb8/SCI-Revised,-2021-(1).pdf)

Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee:

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/920e3f29-7791-4d61-ba9d-b698c87b6593/Protocol-Dec-2021-Rev-5.docx>

Council's Constitution:

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/5711484b-cb57-4138-9f1a-f526c88a86e4/Council-constitution.pdf>

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@derrystرابane.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 re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne McCracken
Head of Planning