

From: EIR Compliance

To:

Subject: 20260729 -EIR - Data Supplied

Date: 29 July 2026 11:58:00

Reference Number: **EIR**

Dear

I refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 1 July for information regarding:

"We have been instructed to undertake an Odour Assessment in support of a planning application for a residential development on land off Main Street, Askrigg.

The proposal is situated in close proximity to the Askrigg Sewage Treatment Works (STWs) operated by Yorkshire Water (YW). As such, I am writing to request some additional information to inform our assessment. Please could you therefore kindly provide the following:

- A labelled site layout plan of the STWs;*
- Any existing emissions data for the STWs;*
- Complaints history in relation to odour from the STWs; and,*
- Any existing Odour Assessments which have been undertaken in relation to the STWs.*

If you could also review the below methodology and let us know any comments or additional considerations for inclusion in the assessment."

Please find attached the data which you have requested.

Labelled site layout plan of the STWs:

We are writing to inform you that your request for environmental information has been refused in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. After careful consideration, we have determined that the information you have requested for this question is exempt from disclosure. In accordance with section 12(5) paragraph (a) of the EIR, a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect international relations, defence, national security or public safety. In applying this exemption, we must consider the potential harm that could result from releasing the requested information and weigh it against the public interest in disclosure. We have to treat disclosure of information under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs) as disclosure to the 'world at large'. Whilst we appreciate it would be beneficial to obtain this data, we have to consider the wider public interest in disclosure, based on this. It is our belief that disclosing information could potentially pose a risk to national security. This is because safeguarding national security includes the protection of potential targets, even if there is no evidence that an attack is imminent. The information you have requested forms part of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) of this country and could be perceived as a potential target for such an attack. In addition to this, we also have to consider the guidance issued to us by DEFRA on what we can make available in the public domain in relation to our Critical National Infrastructure (CNI).

We recognise the importance of transparency and accountability, and we have carefully considered whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the potential harm. However, we believe that in this case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Emissions data for the STWs

We have no odour emission data for this site. As such for the purpose of EIR we applied exemption 12(4)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

Complaints History in relation to Odour from the STW's

The data protection team have conversed with the business and have established we do not hold any of the requested data. As such for the purposes of paragraph 12(4) a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

Odour Assessments

The data protection team have conversed with the business and have established we do not hold any of the requested data. As such for the purposes of paragraph 12(4) a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

I trust that the provision of this data satisfies your request. In accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, if you are not satisfied with this reply to your request you can ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days by contacting the Data Protection Team.

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk