

**From:** EIR Compliance

**To:**

**Subject:** 20250612 - EIR - Internal review response

**Date:** 12 June 2025 15:42:00

**Internal review response EIR (Follow on from EIR)**

Dear

We refer to your email dated 20 May 2025 in relation to our response to EIR.

We have logged your internal review reference as EIR.

**Original request:**

On the 8 April 2025 you requested information for:

*"Environmental Information Request PFAS Data*

*PFAS measurements from surface water abstraction sites from 2000-2025 in the form of concentrations (e.g. ng/L).*

*In order to make full use of the data, I would also require the following information in a table alongside the PFAS data:*

- Sampling date and time*
- Sampling location (i.e. name of abstraction point)*
- Qualifiers associated with the datapoint (e.g. less-thans or error flags)"*

We logged this as EIR.

**Our response:**

We responded to EIR on the 7 May to provide the information that you requested and applied the exemption 12(4)(a) for the data prior to 202 as 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. We applied 12(5)(a) to the precise sample locations.

**Our response to your internal review:**

You contacted us on the 20 May to request an internal review of our response to EIR.

*"I understand that under the regulation 12(5)(a), the disclosure of exact sampling locations is not possible. However, I am writing to ask whether it would be possible to provide a slightly more specific level of location detail, such as partial postcodes or as 1km grid references.*

*My project will look at the relationship between catchment characteristics such as precipitation duration and land use to PFAS levels. Therefore, a more accurate alignment of data points with their respective catchments would significantly enhance the scientific value of the analysis, without compromising any confidentiality concerns.*

*Of course, I fully understand if more specific location data cannot be provided, but I wanted to inquire in case it is possible."*

Following a thorough review of our original response and the information contained within your request for an internal review we remain satisfied that releasing information you have requested would pose a risk to national security and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public

interest in disclosure, as such we are upholding the original exemption 12(5)(a) applied in our response to EIR.

In reconsidering your request and consulting with the business, we appreciate your interest in the subject and your intention to pursue work in this area, while we are unable to provide the requested information, we can confirm that a colleague within our organisation may be able to assist in understanding the scope of your project and exploring opportunities for collaborative working where appropriate. You may contact XXXX. This may enable a constructive way forward within the appropriate parameters.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review you have the right of appeal to the Information Commissioner who can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Web: <http://www.ico.org.uk>

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: [EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk](mailto:EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk)