

Management information (FOI/EIR requests) for the Department of Education for 2026

The Department of Education (DE) remains committed to fulfilling its statutory obligations under the Freedom of Information Act and Environmental Information Regulations.

Table 1: FOI/EIR Requests Received

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year
FOI/EIR Requests Received					
Number of FOI requests received	55				
Number of EIR requests received	-				
Number of FOI/EIRs withdrawn or no clarification* received within timeframe	1				

*Where clarification is sought requestors have 2 months in which to provide clarification. If no clarification is received within this timeframe the request will be considered 'closed'.

Table 2: Timeliness of Response

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year
Compliance with Statutory Deadline					
Statutory Deadline Achieved	51				
Statutory Deadline Missed	3				
Withdrawn or no clarification received	1				
% Achieving Response by Statutory Deadline	94%				

The FOI Act requires public bodies to respond to requests for information in a timely manner. 'Statutory Deadline Achieved' responses are those processed within the statutory deadline (20 working days) or subject to a permitted deadline extension, including:

- Additional time for public interest tests under the FOI Act.
- Extensions under the EIR for complex or voluminous requests.

Table 3: Initial Outcomes

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year
Outcome of requests					
Released in Full	21				
Partly released – some information not held	13				
Partly released – Exemptions/Exceptions Apply*	8				
Information not held	5				
Fully withheld	7				

*Under the FOI Act and EIR there are **exemptions (FOIA)** and **exceptions (EIR)** that allow Public Authorities to withhold information.

Table 4: Internal Reviews

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year
Internal Reviews					
Requests referred for Internal Review	10				
No. of Internal Reviews 20-day target Achieved	8				
No. of Internal Review 20-day target Missed	2				
Original decision upheld in full by Internal Review	8				
Original decision upheld in part by Internal Review	1				
Original decision not upheld by Internal Review	1				