

DE/2026-050 – Freedom of Information Request

Request:

This request is submitted under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please respond within the statutory 20 working days. If any part of this request is exempt, please identify the exemption and disclose what you can.

General Information:

How many sites are part of this organisation?

Are utilities (gas, electricity, water) procured collectively on behalf of all sites?

Who is responsible for procurement decisions relating to utilities? (Please state job title) How does the organisation ensure compliance and public procurement regulations when procuring energy?

Does the organisation use a framework for energy procurement? If yes, which one?

Does the organisation have any sustainability or Net Zero objectives that influence procurement decisions? If yes, please summarise.

Energy Procurement & Pricing

How are your electricity and gas contracts procured? (e.g. direct with supplier, via broker/TPI, via framework) Which framework, DPS, or third-party broker/TPI is or was used? Please state the name.

When was your current electricity contract signed or agreed?

When was your current gas contract signed or agreed?

What is the current contract end date for your electricity supply?

What is the current contract end date for your gas supply?

Who is your current electricity supplier?

Who is your current gas supplier?

If your electricity contract is fixed price, what is the current unit rate (p/kWh)?

If your contract is flexible, half-hourly traded, or index-linked, please just confirm the contract type and we will not ask for a specific rate.

If your gas contract is fixed price, what is the current unit rate (p/kWh)?

If your contract is flexible, half-hourly traded, or index-linked, please just confirm the contract type and we will not ask for a specific rate.

What is the current standing charge (p/day) for electricity and gas?

Was a broker or Third Party Intermediary (TPI) involved in arranging your current contracts? If yes, please state their name.

What commission, broker fee, or TPI payment was paid in connection with your current gas and/or electricity contracts? Please state the amount per meter, per contract, or as a p/kWh uplift. If the organisation does not hold this information, please confirm whether it has been requested from the broker or supplier.

How many suppliers submitted quotations for your most recent electricity and gas procurement?

Metering, MOP, DA & DC Arrangements

(MOP = Meter Operator | DA = Data Aggregator | DC = Data Collector- these are contracted services that determine how your energy data is captured and settled) Are any of your electricity meters Half-Hourly (HH) settled (Profile Class 00)?

If yes, how many HH meters does the organisation have, and across which sites?

Who is the current Meter Operator (MOP) for your electricity meters?

When was the current MOP contract signed, and what is its end date?

Who is the current Data Collector (DC) and Data Aggregator (DA) for your electricity meters?

What charges are applied for MOP, DA, and DC services? Are these shown as a separate line item on bills, or embedded within the unit rate?

Were MOP, DA, and DC contracts competitively tendered, or were they assigned by the supplier or framework?

Energy Monitoring & Management

Does the organisation currently have any form of energy monitoring in place? (e.g. AMR, smart meter portal, half-hourly data access, real-time dashboards) If yes, which sites have monitoring, and what type is in place at each? Please distinguish between: real-time | live data | half-hourly/ Day+1 data | monthly smart read only | manual reads only Which platform, portal or software is used to view or analyse energy consumption data?

Is gas consumption monitored separately to electricity? If yes, how?

Does the organisation receive automated alerts for unusual or excessive energy consumption (e.g. overnight or weekend usage)?

Does the organisation receive any bill validation or bill checking service, from a broker, consultant, or software platform?

Has the organisation undertaken any energy audits, Display Energy Certificate (DEC) assessments, or ESOS compliance reporting in the last three years?

Has the organisation ever used energy data to identify and evidence savings? If yes, please give a brief summary.

Water Procurement & Monitoring

How are your water and wastewater contracts procured?

Which framework, DPS, or third-party was used? Please state the name.

When was your current water contract signed or agreed?

What is the current contract end date for your water supply?

Who is your current water supplier?

What unit rate (p/m³) are you currently paying for water and wastewater, if known?

How many suppliers submitted quotations for your most recent water procurement?

Was a broker or TPI used in procuring your water contract? If yes, please state their name and any fee or commission paid.

Are there any additional services included such as leak detection, water efficiency, or bill validation? If yes, please describe.

Does the organisation have any water monitoring or sub-metering in place to detect leaks or track consumption at site level?

Department Response:

Thank you for your request for information relating to Energy, procurement and management. The request was received on 6 May 2026.

In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act, I can confirm that the Department holds some of the information requested. Relevant information held by the Department of Education is provided in Annexe A to this letter. Where information is not held by the Department, or responsibility rests with another department, this has been clearly set out within Annexe A.

Annexe A

Annexe A – Scope of Response and Responsibilities

The Department of Education (DE) can provide information only in respect of areas where it holds responsibility and recorded information.

Under current arrangements, energy procurement and estate management are coordinated centrally by the Department of Finance (DoF) through Collaborative Procurement and Delivery (CPD). As such, DoF is responsible for responding to aspects of this request relating to the wider office estate and central procurement frameworks, including energy supply arrangements.

Within the Department of Education estate, DE occupies two premises which form part of the DoF office estate:

- **Rathgael House** – DE occupies this building and holds responsibility for premises-related matters and associated information.
- **Orchard House** – DE staff occupy this building, however, does not hold premises responsibility or the relevant information requested in respect of this site.

General Information - DoF can answer as per collaborative agreement. [DoF – Collaborative Arrangement – Provision of Metered Electricity 2024 - 2027 | Department of Finance – specification of requirements.](#)

Energy Procurement & Pricing – DoF can answer as per collaborative agreement. [DoF – Collaborative Arrangement – Provision of Metered Electricity 2024 - 2027 | Department of Finance – specification of requirements.](#)

Metering, MOP, DA & DC Arrangements – DoF can only answer for the DoF Office estate.

Energy Monitoring & Management - DoF can only answer for the DoF Office estate.

Water Procurement & Monitoring – DoF advised that no information held.

For further details relevant to these aspects of your request, you may wish to contact the Department of Finance Freedom of Information via email to: foi@finance-ni.gov.uk.