# 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 | 65 | 99 | | |
| Number of EIR requests received | - | - | - | | |
| Number of FOI/EIRs withdrawn or no clarification* received within timeframe | 1 | 3 | 2 | | |

*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 | 60 | 83 | | |
| Statutory Deadline Missed | 3 | 2 | 14 | | |
| Withdrawn or no clarification received | 1 | 3 | 2 | | |
| % Achieving Response by Statutory Deadline | 95% | 97% | 86% | | |

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 | 17 | 7 | | |
| Partly released – some information not held | 13 | 11 | 12 | | |
| Partly released – Exemptions/Exceptions Apply* | 8 | 16 | 22 | | |
| Information not held | 5 | 10 | 13 | | |
| Fully withheld | 7 | 3 | 40 | | |

*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 | 1 | 8 | | |
| No. of Internal Reviews 20-day target Achieved | 8 | 1 | 8 | | |
| No. of Internal Review 20-day target Missed | 2 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Original decision upheld in full by Internal Review | 8 | 0 | 8 | | |
| Original decision upheld in part by Internal Review | 1 | 1 | 0 | | |
| Original decision not upheld by Internal Review | 1 | 0 | 0 | | |

Date of Publication April 2026
Updated October 2026