



Reference: RFI 1805075

Request:

I would like to request information under the Environmental Information Regulations (2004).

Please can you send or e-mail to me the following:

- A copy of the feasibility study for Nitrogen Dioxide Compliance (required by DEFRA by 31 March 2018, under the Environment Act 1995, Air Quality Direction 2017 of 28 July 2017), which identifies options for compliance with legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide for the area your authority is responsible for.
- Minutes of Council meetings between 1 July 2017 and 10 May 2018 where the feasibility study was discussed.
- Any background documents linked to the feasibility study circulated in advance of Council meetings between 1 July 2017 and 10 May 2018 where the feasibility study was discussed.

Response

A copy of the feasibility study for Nitrogen Dioxide Compliance (required by DEFRA by 31 March 2018, under the Environment Act 1995, Air Quality Direction 2017 of 28 July 2017), which identifies options for compliance with legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide for the area your authority is responsible for.

The required feasibility study is being produced jointly between North Tyneside, Newcastle City and Gateshead councils. This is due to be finalised by 31 December 2018.

We would consider that this material is still in the course of completion and therefore comes within the exceptions provided under Regulations 12(4)(d), 12(5)(e) and 12(5)(f). In applying these exceptions we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure of the information. We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosure of information concerning studies carried out through government funding and around air quality in general. On the other hand, there is a strong public interest in withholding the information because persons who have supplied information are not expecting that it would be disclosed to a third party; and have not agreed to the information being supplied and the material is still in the course of completion. Therefore, we have concluded that, in all the circumstances of the case, the information should be withheld under sections 12(4)(d), 12(5)(e) and 12(5)(f).

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Minutes of Council meetings between 1 July 2017 and 10 May 2018 where the feasibility study was discussed.

No information held.

Any background documents linked to the feasibility study circulated in advance of Council meetings between 1 July 2017 and 10 May 2018 where the feasibility study was discussed.

No information held.

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Date: 02/07/2018

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