

**Central Services & Contingency
Planning**
Digital Services Division



Our reference: **DAERA/23-143**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Digital Programme Support Office
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB

Tel: [REDACTED]

Via Email:

[REDACTED]

Email:

DigitalServicesAdmin@daera-ni.gov.uk

10 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 25 April 2023 which sought the information below.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds some of the information you requested which is detailed in the answers below:

Q1. The duration of time the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs has been utilising cloud infrastructure.

A1. 7 years

Q2. The criteria used to choose a cloud provider.

A2. We do not hold this information however the Department of Finance provides shared services on behalf of all NICS Government Departments, including IT procurement. They may be able to provide further information by contacting foi@finance-ni.gov.uk

Q3. The percentage of infrastructures in the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs employing cloud services.

A3. We do not hold this information however the Department of Finance provides shared services on behalf of all NICS Government Departments, including managing infrastructures. They may be able to provide further information by contacting foi@finance-ni.gov.uk

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Q4. The supplier of cloud infrastructures used by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs. (AWS/Oracle/Azure etc.)

A4. We do not hold this information however the Department of Finance provides shared services on behalf of all NICS Government Departments, including cloud infrastructures. They may be able to provide further information by contacting foi@finance-ni.gov.uk

Q5. Case studies highlighting the successful implementation of the 'Cloud-first' strategy.

A5. We do not have or apply a 'Cloud-first' strategy.

Q6. The uptime of the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs cloud infrastructure.

A6. We do not hold this information however the Department of Finance provides shared services on behalf of all NICS Government Departments, including managing cloud infrastructure. They may be able to provide further information by contacting foi@finance-ni.gov.uk

Q7. The annual budget over the last five years for IT-managed services.

A7. We do not hold budgetary information specific to IT managed services.

Q8. Please provide the percentage spent on cloud-managed services.

A8. We do not hold this information however the Department of Finance provides shared services on behalf of all NICS Government Departments, including expenditure on cloud managed services. They may be able to provide further information by contacting foi@finance-ni.gov.uk

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department.

If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

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If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,


Digital Programme Support Office

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