



4th Floor
92 Ann Street
Belfast
BT1 3HH

Phone: 028 9024 4710
Email: info@pacni.gov.uk

Website: www.pacni.gov.uk

Regional Planning and policy Casework
[issued via email to DFIPlanninggroup@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk]

Date: 19th June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

2021/C005 - a Public Local Inquiry under Section 26(10) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA10/2017/1249/F

2021/C006 – a Public Local Inquiry under Section 29(6) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA10/2019/1386/F

2021/C007 – a Public Local Inquiry under Section 29(6) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA11/2019/1000/F

The Department for Infrastructure referred the three planning applications set out above to the Commission on 22 September 2021 requesting that public local inquiries be undertaken. The Commission, having opened hearings to the conjoined public local inquiries in January 2025, later acceded to the Department's request to suspend them, pending transboundary consultation taking place with Ireland in accordance with The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (EIA Regulations 2015) and The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017) respectively.

The Commission acknowledges the Department's compiled list of issues raised by various statutory bodies in Ireland and by third parties to the public consultation. The Commission asks that the Department, having considered the issues raised to date, clarify if it considers

that further environmental information (FEI) is required to progress the above applications and if so, whether it intends to request the same from the applicant(s).

As outlined in previous correspondence, the Commission does not have the power to request FEI when conducting a public local inquiry. This is a power which rests with the Department when an application is processed under Section 26 or Section 29 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. The relevant provisions are set out under Regulation 23(1) and (2) of The EIA Regulations 2015 and Regulation 21(1) and (2) of the EIA Regulations 2017.

The Commission requests your written response to this matter by **2pm on 26th June 2025**.

In line with the Commission's policy of openness and transparency, this correspondence will be uploaded to the Commission's website.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

Chief Administrative Officer

On behalf of the Planning Appeals Commission