

Annex A

DOF/2021-0210

Request:

Specifically you have requested:

1. How many buildings have you built/ designed/ consulted on in the last 10 years (per year, 2011-2020)?
2. Of these buildings how many included renewable technology (e.g., Photovoltaic panels) (in type/ amount and capacity in kW/h if relevant)?
3. Of the buildings how many have incorporated measures/ design features to impact on health and wellbeing, and what were these features (number of and feature)?
4. Of the buildings how many have included measures/ design features which are considered 'biophilic', (e.g., wooden cladding, green roofs, blue roofs, living walls).
5. Does your organisation have a specific policy/ requirement for Biophilic design?

Response:

Questions 1-4

The Department can confirm that it holds information that would fall within the scope of the request. However, it is unable to provide the information you requested as it considers this to exceed the fees threshold. Under Section 12 of the FOIA the Department has estimated that the cost of complying with your request is £25,000. This exceeds the appropriate limit of £600 as set out in the Fees Regulations.

The breakdown of costs has been supplied below:

Number of documents to extract and review	Estimate of time per document to review and include or discard	Number of hours (Documents x time to review)	Total estimated cost - hours x £25/hr.
10,000	0.1 hour	1000	£25,000

You may wish to refine or narrow your request for information to fall within the fees threshold e.g. reducing the date range or the number of questions asked. However, even if your request is narrowed, some of the requested information may still not be considered suitable for release to you e.g. if it is considered exempt under any

provision of the Act such as (commercially sensitive information or third party personal data).

Question 5

The Department does not have a specific policy on Biophilic design. However, the Department has a policy that new and refurbishment projects should achieve a BREEAM rating which includes matters related to health and well-being. The policy is available at:

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/procurement-guidance-note-0610-procurement-construction-works-and-services>

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.