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P Smith  
By email: [request-433194-da0a635d@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-433194-da0a635d@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our ref: RFI 9374  
17 October 2017

Dear Ms Smith,

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: DETAILS OF FUNDS GRANTED TO CANAL AND RIVER TRUST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 10 October 2017, about funding granted to the Canal & River Trust for the period 1 January 2012 to 10 October 2017 for the purposes of environmental monitoring. We are handling your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Where a request is formulated in too general a manner and could be refused under regulation 12(4)(c), the EIRs allow public authorities to request that applicants provide further particulars and require them, as far as it would be reasonable, to provide advice and assistance to applicants to enable them to describe more clearly the information requested so that the public authority can identify or locate it.

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification. We therefore require you to provide further information to enable us to identify and locate the information that you have requested. As explained previously, information on 'environmental monitoring' could cover a range of factors that are relevant to inland waterways, which can include for example water quality or biodiversity in the waterways, or on the land held by the Trust. Unfortunately narrowing your request to Oxford does not reduce the range of factors that would need to be considered. It would therefore be useful to know which particular area(s) of environmental monitoring you require information on as without this clarification we will not be able to proceed with your request.

When you have clarified your request, we will be able to begin to process it. Please note that the 20-working-day timescale for responding to your request will commence from the date that we receive the clarification.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Marie Taylor**  
**Information Rights Team**  
[InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

