

Mr Carroll

Our Ref: ER/C/ 766

Your Ref: Email of 08 August 2011

Date: 24 August 2011

Dear Mr Carroll

**RE: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) /
Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)**

Thank you for your enquiry which was received on 08 August 2011.

Requests for information that is recorded are generally governed by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). The information you have requested is environmental and it is therefore exempted from the provisions of FOIA by FOIA s.39(1). We have therefore considered your request under the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

You asked us to provide:

1. a list of alleged 3,100 residential and commercial properties that the Environment Agency claims are still at risk of flooding following the River Tame flood risk management strategy. ... a list of these properties by house number, street and postcode.
2. the additional 2,300 properties by the same method, that it is claimed are likely to be at risk from "climate change" impact.
3. What methods were used to calculate the properties at risk from "climate change",

To deal with the elements of your request in order:

1. It is not possible for the Environment Agency to provide a list of properties in the form you have requested. To identify areas at risk of flooding we use specialist computer mapping software. This software identifies the geographical location of the properties, which are represented as individual points on a map. There is an obligation on a public authority to provide information held at the time of a request; in the case of house numbers, street names and post-codes in the areas referred to in the River Tame Flood Risk Strategy, we do not hold this information and accordingly the duty to make information available to you under EIR Regulation 5(1) does not arise because in accordance with EIR Regulation 3(2) we do not hold the information you have requested. EIR Regulation 12(4)(a) also applies – we do not hold the information that you have requested.

2. As above, the information you have requested is not held in the form of house numbers, street names or post-codes, and the duty to provide information does not arise.

3. The methods used to calculate the size of the area potentially affected by climate change are detailed in the Environment Agency's publication Adapting to Climate Change: Advice for Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management Authorities
<http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/PDF/GEHO0711BTZU-E-E.pdf>

I hope that we have correctly interpreted your request. Please see the Standard Notice for details of permitted use.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your request for information you can contact us to ask for our decision to be reviewed. If you are still not satisfied following this, you can then make an appeal to the Information Commissioner, who is the statutory regulator for Freedom of Information.

The address is:

Office of the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Tel: 01625 545700.

Fax: 01625 524 510.

E-mail: xxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx.

Website: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

External Relations Officer

Direct e-mail:- **midscentral@environment-agency.gov.uk**

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