

Information Management Unit IT Suite Westland House 40 Old Westland Road Belfast BT14 6TE

Tel: 03457 440088 Email: imu@niwater.com Your reference: Our reference: NIW 2425512

Date: 29 January 2025

Dear

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your correspondence of 26 January 2025 regarding Fluoridation in the water supply of Northern Ireland.

As your query falls under the definition of a request for environmental information, NI Water is replying under the disclosure provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

Prior to the reorganisation of local Government and the creation of the Water Service in 1973, the water supply was the responsibility of local Councils and three areas voted to fluoridate their water supplies, Tandragee, parts of Holywood and Crossmaglen.

None of the schemes were entirely successful as the Tandragee area was too small to carry out a study; Holywood was a mixed supply and did not continuously dose in the required range; and the Crossmaglen plant was never commissioned. NI Water, established as a Government-owned Company in April 2007, has never artificially fluoridated the public water supply in Northern Ireland. The decision to fluoridate the public water supply would be one for the Department of Health, not for NI Water. NI Water is currently unaware of any plans to do so. There is naturally occurring fluoride in the raw water, the remaining levels of which, i.e., following treatment, can be viewed in the water quality reports for the supply zone.

If you are interested in this information as it relates to your property, the link below is to our website. If you input your postcode, you can see water hardness information, along with a link to the Water Quality Report for your water supply zone. This is currently the 2024 report, but will be replaced with the 2025 calendar year in due course.

https://www.niwater.com/water-quality-results/

You have the right to request that NI Water formally review this response within forty working days of the date of this letter. If you wish to do so, please email <u>imu@niwater.com</u> or write to NI Water Information Management Unit, IT Suite, Westland House, 40 Old Westland Road, Belfast, BT14 6TE.

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.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Information Management Unit Northern Ireland Water