

FOI Reference Number: FOI/284/1819

Date: 10 September 2018

**Request:**

I would like to find out how to get my house water tested and what chemicals are put into the water before it reaches our households. I live in Carrickfergus and spend a considerable amount of money on pure water on a weekly basis as our house hold cannot drink the tea water.

**Response:**

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 10 September 2018.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to water

*Further to the your query regarding the above where water is supplied to a domestic property from the mains supply, concerns regarding drinking water quality should be directed to Northern Ireland Water. You can do so by contacting Waterline on 0345 744 0088. If appropriate, Northern Ireland Water will take samples for analysis and let you know results as soon as possible, depending on the nature of test carried out.*

*Where water is supplied to a domestic property from a private water supply (well, borehole etc.) a request can be made to the Environmental Health Department to take a sample for further analysis. If a private water supply is contaminated improvements can be made to a supply which may involve installing treatment equipment, replacing pipes, carrying out maintenance or other improvements. The Environmental Health Department will be able to give advice about treatment methods or other details on how to improve a water supply.*

*If a property is privately let and there are concerns regarding the quality of drinking water, the Environmental Health Department can take a sample for further analysis and where necessary, take formal action requiring a landlord to carry out works to ensure safe drinking water is provided.*

*Should you wish to discuss the content of this correspondence, please contact our Environmental Health Department for further information.*

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/284/1819 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeastantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.