

FOI Reference Number: FOI/538/1819

Date: 27 February 2019

Request:

Under the freedom of information act please could you send me a copy of your planning policy in SHP or KML format or in any other digital shape format. We are specifically interested in the local plan and want access to the underlying special data within that local plan?

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 21 February 2019.

Please find below, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to Planning Policy.

At present there are 3 separate extant Area Plans covering the area within Mid and East Antrim Borough Council. These were all published by the former Department of Environment (now the Department for Infrastructure) and comprise:

- ***The Ballymena Area Plan 1986-2001, adopted in 1989 which covered the former Ballymena Borough Council area;***
- ***The Larne Area Plan 2010, adopted in 1998, which covered the former Larne Borough Council area;***
- ***The Carrickfergus Area Plan 2001, adopted in 2000, which covered the former Carrickfergus Borough Council.***

With the reform of local government in Northern Ireland in April 2015, these 3 councils amalgamated to form Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and work commenced on the preparation of a new Local Development Plan within the new statutory framework provided by the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

Work is still in progress on the new LDP - the Mid and East Antrim Local Development Plan. Until such time as this work is completed and the new LDP adopted, the above mentioned Area Plans remain the extant Plans for Mid and East Antrim. Given the age of these Area Plans, there is only partial information available on line from the DfI website at

www.planningni.gov.uk

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council does not have the information which informed these Area Plans and is therefore unable to comply with your request.

However, it may be helpful to point out that the preliminary stage of the Mid and East Antrim LDP completed in June 2017 with the publication of the Preferred Options Paper. There is also a set of Position Papers providing baseline information relevant to the new LDP. All this information can be accessed on the Council's website at:

www.midandeantrim.gov.uk

The first stage of the new two stage process will be completed upon the adoption of the Plan Strategy. It is anticipated that the draft Plan Strategy will be published for public consultation later this year.

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/538/1819 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.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

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