

Further to your request for information dated 25 May 2010, I can confirm that the information you requested is being withheld under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The verification statement is a statutory document the original of which has been lodged with the Clerk of the Crown in accordance with the law. Rule 56 of the Parliamentary Election Rules provides, in effect, that it can only be made available following an order by an election court. As you will know an election petition has been presented so that the conduct of the election is a live issue. In these circumstances the information you seek is exempt from disclosure to you by virtue of both sections 32 and 44 of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of your decision you should write to:

Chief Electoral Officer
3rd Floor St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Belfast BT1 1ER
Email: mdoherty@eoni.org.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by an organisation. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45
www.ico.gov.uk

Regards,

Information Officer