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**Mark H Durkan MLA**  
**Minister of the Environment**  
**Goodwood House, 44 - 58 May Street,**  
**Town Parks, Belfast BT1 4NN**

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**Phil Flanagan MLA**  
**Northern Ireland Assembly**  
**Parliament Buildings**  
**Ballymiscaw**  
**Stormont**

**AQW 41734/11-15**

**Phil Flanagan MLA has asked:**

**To ask the Minister of the Environment, to detail (1) the number of raths in each council area; and (ii) the number that are protected by NIEA.**

**ANSWER**

Some 2,814 sites are identified as raths in the Northern Ireland Monuments and Buildings Record (MBR). I have provided an overview map of these in Appendix 1 and the actual numbers as they relate to each council area (pre and post RPA) in Appendix 2. I will also place copies of these in the Assembly library.

There are 524 raths in Northern Ireland which are protected by scheduling under the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (NI) Order 1995; the majority of these are on private land. Fifteen raths are protected by being in State Care: Appendix 2 details the location of these protected sites with regard to council areas. In addition, all other recorded raths are protected by both planning and agricultural policies.

You should also note that the MBR contains details of 3,474 sites that have a potential to be raths but which survive now only as below ground remains. As there are no visible above ground remains to examine, only archaeological excavation could ascertain the definitive nature of these 3,474 sites. I trust that this information and the accompanying appendices have answered your query.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Durkan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

**Signed:**

**Mark H Durkan MLA**

**Date:**

**13 February 2015**

## Appendix 2

### Location of Rath's pre-RPA LGD:

	Scheduled	State Care	State Care & Scheduled	Other	Total
<b>Antrim</b>	30	1	0	205	236
<b>Ards</b>	11	0	0	45	56
<b>Armagh</b>	36	0	0	158	194
<b>Ballymena</b>	19	0	0	46	65
<b>Ballymoney</b>	16	0	0	26	42
<b>Banbridge</b>	34	0	2	182	218
<b>Belfast</b>	4	1	0	11	16
<b>Carrickfergus</b>	2	0	0	10	12
<b>Castlereagh</b>	7	0	0	10	17
<b>Coleraine</b>	17	0	1	61	79
<b>Cookstown</b>	16	0	1	91	108
<b>Craigavon</b>	4	0	1	43	48
<b>Derry</b>	7	0	0	10	17
<b>Down</b>	35	0	1	107	143
<b>Dungannon</b>	23	0	2	133	158
<b>Fermanagh</b>	88	0	0	531	619
<b>Larne</b>	5	0	0	33	38
<b>Limavady</b>	15	0	1	26	42
<b>Lisburn</b>	36	2	1	138	177
<b>Magherafelt</b>	18	1	0	61	80
<b>Moyle</b>	2	0	0	11	13
<b>Newry &amp; Mourne</b>	39	0	0	138	177
<b>Newtownabbey</b>	11	0	0	22	33
<b>North Down</b>	0	0	0	13	13
<b>Omagh</b>	25	0	0	100	125
<b>Strabane</b>	14	0	0	74	88
<b>Totals</b>	<i>514</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>2285</i>	<i>2814</i>

**Location of Rathes post-RPA LGD:**

	<b>Scheduled</b>	<b>State Care</b>	<b>State Care &amp; Scheduled</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey</b>	41	1	0	227	269
<b>Armagh, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon</b>	68	0	3	369	440
<b>Belfast</b>	5	1	0	12	18
<b>Causeway Coast &amp; Glens</b>	50	0	2	124	176
<b>Derry &amp; Strabane</b>	21	0	0	84	105
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh</b>	113	0	0	631	744
<b>Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh</b>	42	2	1	147	192
<b>Mid &amp; East Antrim</b>	26	0	0	89	115
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	57	1	3	285	346
<b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b>	80	0	1	259	340
<b>North Down &amp; Ards</b>	11	0	0	58	69
<b>Totals</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2285</b>	<b>2814</b>