

Response to Request for Information

Reference: FOI_8114
Date: September 2017
Type of request Freedom of Information / Environmental Information Request

One Public Estate (OPE) Funding

With regards to your recent application to the Cabinet Office for One Public Estate funding, please could you provide me with the following:

1. A copy of the funding application to the Cabinet Office.

2. A copy of the supporting business case.

3. A copy of the programme for the scheme.

Cambridgeshire County Council has considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act and can confirm that it holds the information covered by your questions. In respect of the three documents requested, above, these are attached as Appendices 1, 2, and 3 respectively. These documents have been considered individually and where information has been redacted this is as a consequence of the following exemptions having been applied under the relevant sections of the Act:

s40(2) Personal Information of a person other than the requestor; and

S43(2) Information which is deemed to be commercially sensitive.

Section 40 is an absolute, class-based exemption for which there is no requirement for the public interest in disclosure to be considered. It applies where the disclosure would potentially breach any of the Principles contained in the Data Protection Act and in this instance it is my view that Principle 1 (fair and lawful processing) would be breached as a disclosure under FOI is a release fully into the public domain.

Section 43(2) is a prejudice based, qualified exemption which requires both consideration of the public interest in disclosure and for the prejudice to be demonstrated. It applies where the commercial interest of any party which holds the information would be harmed by full disclosure into the public domain. In this instance, the OPE information should not be disclosed as it remains an ongoing public consultation process where full disclosure would harm our commercial position unfavourably at a time of austerity. Having considered the wider public interest in the accountability of our actions, it is my view that *at this time* the arguments against disclosure outweigh those in favour.

Redactions to these documents have been made by obscuration.

4. A list of the legal, management and property consultants you have appointed to work on the project so far.

4. Joint Highways Depot Consultants for Feasibility Study were Pick Everard

5. The potential value of the scheme.

5. Anticipated generated income from inward investment for years 1 to 10 is £20,000,000 (this is comprised of capital receipts from the sale of government land and savings from running costs).

6. Details of any public consultations that have been held.

6. Consultations (Community Hubs Project Consultation) were commenced in July 2017 and, as at the time of your request, were ongoing and due to close on 22nd September.

7. The name of the lead representatives for each local authority involved in the scheme.

Cambridgeshire County Council	To be confirmed (formerly Cllr Nick Clarke)
Cambridge City Council	Cllr Lewis Herbert
South Cambridgeshire District Council	Cllr Peter Topping
Huntingdonshire DC	Cllr Graham Bull
Fenland DC	Cllr Kay Mayor
East Cambridgeshire DC	Cllr Charles Roberts
Peterborough City Council	Cllr John Holdich

8. The total amount of funding that has been received to date.

8. £346,000 as at September 2017.

Information Management Team

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