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Our ref: FOI/ E28822

Ask for: Information Governance

Date: 29/09/2017

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Dear Mr Aitch,

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Internal Review request
Subject: London Stadium**

We write with regard to your recent enquiry for information held by the Council under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We trust that the information provided is satisfactory.

For future reference we publish information on our website, including the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and summary of Freedom of Information requests and responses that may be of help to you in searching for information. Our website is mentioned above.

It is important to note that under the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 the Council asks not to receive unsolicited marketing communication.

Initial Request

In your statement of 19.06.15 'Costs of former Olympic Stadium transformation confirmed' you inform Newham residents that many benefits will accrue from the £40m investment in the London Stadium's transformation (for use by West Ham United).

The statement finishes with a summary of the benefits for Newham residents. These include:

1. Year-round access for school clubs to a new floodlit 400m London Marathon Charitable Trust Community Track, which will also be home to Newham and Essex Beagles.
2. Ten exclusive mass participation events in the Stadium per year for Newham residents including the Morrisons Great Newham London Run with more than 2,000 free places for Newham residents.
3. Up to 100,000 free tickets every year for Newham residents to West Ham United matches.
4. A training and education centre in the Stadium.
5. Up to 75 per cent of jobs created at the Stadium will go to Newham residents.

With these in mind, could you please supply the following information:

- A) Has the floodlit track opened and have Newham and Essex Beagles now taken this as their home? How many events have they held at the track? How times has the track been used by schools based in Newham, and by how many schools?
- B) How many mass participation events have been held at the stadium specifically for Newham residents in the last 12 months? How many free places were given to Newham residents for the Morrisons Great Newham London Run?
- C) How many free tickets have been given to Newham residents for West Ham United matches this season? Please also provide a breakdown of numbers of tickets and/or hospitality packages provided to
 - (i) Newham Council staff,
 - (ii) Newham Councillors,
 - (iii) the Newham Mayor.
- D) Has the training and education centre opened at the stadium? If so, how many Newham residents have used it?
- E) How many jobs have been created in the stadium? How many of these have been taken by Newham residents? How many of these are permanent positions? How many of these are zero hours contract posts? Please break down these figures by part-time and full-time posts.
- F) Have any loan repayments been received as yet? Please detail these payments in full.

Initial Response

- A) The London Marathon Community Track does not open to the public until 1st September 2017. Community groups will move to the track from 1st September 2017. Newham and Essex Beagles have not yet moved but we hope they will accept the offer to move to the track.

Newham and Essex Beagles have not held any official events at the track to date.

Newham schools have taken part in two of the test events – the community ticket launch for the IPC World Championships in March 2017 and the ‘Sky Try’ event run in partnership with the Rugby Football League international in November 2016.

- B) One, the Great Newham London Run. 1,000 free places were given to Newham Residents for the 10k run and 500 for the Family Run in 2016.
- C) Section 22 of the Act contains an exemption for information which is due to be made publicly available in the future.

The requested information in respect of the numbers of tickets allocated to Newham residents and use of hospitality lounges for West Ham matches at the London Stadium is due to be made publicly available on the Newham website after the end of

the football season.

We consider that premature release of the information in advance of its full collation is not in the public interest because the information is subject to manual verification of allocations before publication. We would not wish to release inaccurate figures part year without the information undergoing the full checks.

This information will be made publically available after the end of the season on the Newham website:

www.newham.gov.uk

- D) The training and education centre, housing the Learning Zone, is due to open in September 2017. Newham residents have not yet used the facility to date.
- E) The Authority information in relation to the number of people working at the Stadium in February 2017. This includes all staff who transferred to the new location but were previously employed e.g. previously working at West Ham's stadium at the Boleyn Ground or working for a new Stadium contractor and/or their sub contractors in one of their existing locations such as the O2 or Wembley. The numbers of people employed as at February 2017 is 1,207. If these, 20.5% are Newham residents.

Employment status is only recorded in terms of full time and casual and no further breakdowns currently exist. The current data shows 253 Newham residents employed on casual contracts and 10 on full time contracts. Please note, casual contracts are most likely to be part time in nature.

- F) The Council has not yet received loan repayments from Newham Legacy Investments (NLI). The loan was made to the NLI by the Council on the basis that it would be repaid over a 40 year period.

Reasons for Request

I am writing to request an internal review of Newham Borough Council's handling of my FOI request 'London stadium promised benefits for Newham Residents'.

1. This is because the information is not of the level required. Specifically, Newham Council has not stated details relating to how many NEW jobs have been created and provided a breakdown of how many of these have gone to local residents within the borough of Newham.

This original question was: E) How many jobs have been created in the stadium? How many of these have been taken by Newham residents? How

many of these are permanent positions? How many of these are zero hours contract posts? Please break down these figures by part-time and full-time posts.

2. The council has also failed to answer one more question: C) How many free tickets have been given to Newham residents for West Ham United matches this season? Please also provide a breakdown of numbers of tickets and/or hospitality packages provided to
 - (i) Newham Council staff,
 - (ii) Newham Councillors,
 - (iii) the Newham Mayor.

The council has stated an exemption: "C) Section 22 of the Act contains an exemption for information which is due to be made publicly available in the future.

The requested information in respect of the numbers of tickets allocated to Newham residents and use of hospitality lounges for West Ham matches at the London Stadium is due to be made publicly available on the Newham website after the end of the football season.

We consider that premature release of the information in advance of its full collation is not in the public interest because the information is subject to manual verification of allocations before publication. We would not wish to release inaccurate figures part year without the information undergoing the full checks.

This information will be made publically available after the end of the season on the Newham website: www.newham.gov.uk"

The football season has now been over for one month and West Ham United played their last game of the 2016-17 season at the stadium on 14 May. The figures are still to be released. So I would contend that this exemption now falls.

Internal Review Response

I have conducted an investigation into the handling of your request. I am now able to respond to the concerns you have raised. I will respond to your points in turn as highlighted above:

1. In light of the fact this is an FOI request, under the provision of the FOI Act, we are obliged to provide information that the Council holds on this subject. Therefore we have provided the response in accordance with information we hold only. The council only holds information about the number of jobs created and positions filled at London Stadium by Newham residents. We hold information only on full time and casual employment statistics at the London Stadium. The casual jobs are considered to be part-time jobs. We do not hold information on whether these jobs are zero hours contracts. However, we have reviewed the information we hold and endeavoured to answer the question with the best information we hold to satisfy the enquiry raised.

This information is updated on a quarterly basis and provided to the council by the stadium operator, LS185. Since the last enquiry, there has been updated information and the number of full time and casual jobs at the stadium that are filled by Newham residents. The total number of jobs created at the stadium currently is 1,531 jobs. The number of Newham residents employed on full time contracts is 15 out of 70 jobs and the number of Newham residents employed on casual contracts is 469 out of 1,461 jobs. Employment status is only recorded in terms of full time and casual and no further breakdowns currently exist.

This is considered the best information available to answer the question about number of new jobs that have been created.

2. The exemption applied for Question C confirms the requested information will be published on the Newham Council website *after* the end of the football season. We are aware the football season has ended, and we do apologise that the information was not published within the time frame we had initially stated.

However, as it remains our intention to publish the information, the exemption still applies.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you are afforded the option of contacting the Information Commissioner's Office at:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>

Yours sincerely,

Complaints, Members Enquiries and Information Governance
Newham Council