

Hammersmith and Fulham

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7 April 2020

Mr. Owen Sheppard

Our reference: 1718978

Dear Mr. Sheppard

Thank you for your request for information received on 4 February 2020. I apologise for the delay in responding.

Your request

I have been told that in 2019 the council hired a company called Kroll Inc to investigate the council's sale of land that was included in the so-called Earl's Court West Kensington Opportunity Area.

I would like to receive copies of any documents the council possesses which hold information about the findings of Kroll Inc's investigation.

In addition, can you please tell me how much money the council paid to Kroll to undertake this investigation.

And can you tell me when this investigation was commissioned, and when it was completed..

Our response

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked when the investigation was commissioned. The investigation was commissioned on 5th of March 2019 when the authorising decision became effective.

Your request for the cost of the investigation and when it was concluded cannot be provided as the investigation has not concluded.

As to copies of any documents the council possesses which hold information about the findings of the investigation, those documents, if available, are covered under Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as there would be information were given to the council in confidence.

The requirements of Section 41 exemption are;-

- the information was obtained by the authority from any other person;
- its disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence;
- a legal person could bring a court action for that breach of confidence; and
- that court action would be likely to succeed.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request for information, please contact the h&f InTouch team within 40 working days of receiving this response. They will consider the matters raised and decide whether they are referred to the Council's Information Manager for an internal review.

You can write to the h&f InTouch team at Room 229, Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street, London W6 9JU, or email: handfintouch@lbhf.gov.uk. If you are registered for self-service, via the Council's My Account portal, you can also do this online: [Click here to complete the form](#)

You also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Tel: 0303 123 1113. Website: www.ico.org.uk/concerns/. There is no charge for making an appeal. The ICO may ask you to contact Hammersmith and Fulham, so we can complete an internal review, before the ICO investigates the matter.

Yours sincerely

Matt Rumble
Head of Area Regeneration (Earl's Court)