

From: Marc Dorfman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 02 July 2019 23:22
To: Simpson, Paul <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Sharon Bridglasingh <[REDACTED]> Nazneen Roy
<[REDACTED]> Tracy Darke <[REDACTED]> Mark
Culley <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] T [REDACTED] n [REDACTED]
>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Blakelands Review

Blakelands Review - Milton Keynes @ 2-7-19

Dear Paul and Senior Milton Keynes Colleagues,

Apologies for not being able to start at the beginning of July as originally agreed. I have a SSDC additional planning committee on 16/7.

I could arrive and start on 18/7 and or 19/7 and be in MK all week 22/7 - 26/7 and if appropriate 29/7 - 2/8. Please see below Appendix 1 my email to Ms Medina on 25/6 that sets out initial ideas about my start - but I am open to changing this as you advise/require. Please let me know what you think and what you would like.

I have to be in other authorities on 6-7/8; 16-20/8; 30/8 - 4/9; 16-18/9 and 30/9-2/10.

We initially discussed 20 days between July and end of September. I will aim to stick to this and will review with MK Lead Officers after 10.

I have sent [REDACTED] and Mark Culley my Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance Cover. I will send the signed contract.

On 25/6/18 I was contacted by Kamran Hussain (MK Communications) regarding a press enquiry about who I am and my job. I suggested this was referred to Tracy Darke.

On 28/6/19 Duncan Wilkinson, MK Internal Audit asked to talk to me, (telephone). He explained about the half completed IA on the Blakelands issue. He and I thought it would be good to exchange documentation produced to date and then for him to consider how his Audit and my Review might compliment each other. In sending documents to [REDACTED] to Duncan Wilkinson, I asked that Tracy Darke and Paul Simpson were told that Duncan and I had spoken and that I had sent documents to Duncan. I have not received any documentation from Duncan.

Best regards
Marc Dorfman
Town Planning Management Ltd
Tel. 0 [REDACTED]

Appendix 1 Marc Dorfman Email to Tammie Medina on 25-6-19

Dear Ms Medina, many thanks for your email.

I will not be able to start properly until the middle of July - still considering an exact date. My current work commitments are rather heavy.

I certainly have not been able to do any preparation work to date and certainly do not have any list of people to see. Indeed I would need advice on this. (I would need a staff list and roles at the time the problem happened and a current one. I would need a member list from the time and a current one also). The Director was going to put in place a "timeline library of documents" consider where I should work, (if possible with staff) and consider providing me with an admin officer - or simply explain to staff that sometimes I may need help and hope that staff will support me. I would always work through and to the current head of DM and the Director, so as not to undermine them, but on the understanding that I can ask and see anything and that what I conclude will be my view, though this will be shared with all stakeholders.

I have a provisional meeting booked with Duncan Wilkinson 10am 28/6, (he asked for the meeting - I don't know what it is about), but hope to turn this into a phone call.

I envisage coming initially for a full week to get to know the service and understand how Development Management functions. I would meet all the staff informally by walking around politely, saying hello, explaining who I am why I am there and asking questions and reading. If Head of DM prefers to do this in a big meeting - no problem. I would intersperse this with formal meetings with key staff and managers, councillors and residents. But I need to plan this - so this may not be until August/Sept. I would listen to people's concerns. I would not put a specific timescale on completing the work if asked. I would expect to go to some planning committees and officer/member briefings, DM team meetings and review MK "Planning Training for Committee Members" which you must have just completed. I would like to see the documentation and training schedule. I would look in detail at the DM process, how applications get to Committee and how reports are produced and cleared and how members and the community are involved.

In talking to people I would use the template we have developed together and of course ask "lightly" about the questions that have been formerly proposed. I would need advice on some of the questions, whose relevance are not obvious.

After a "full immersive week" I hope to be in a better position to consider how long the process might take and how to proceed. Hopefully this week will be in July. Then another week in August and a third in September.

I expect to report regularly to a senior core group of officers or to that via the Director/Head of DM. I have no preference.

Best regards Marc

On Tue, Jul 2, 2019 at 2:01 PM Simpson, Paul <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Marc - trust this finds you well? It has been a while now since we spoke, and I understand we have inadvertently sent contract documentation to the wrong email address. This is unfortunate as it has clearly delayed your formal appointment to undertake the review. I understood you would be able to start at the end of June as you had previously indicated, so it is frustrating for all parties that it now won't be until later this month. In any event, I believe the team are trying to contact you, to return the contract documentation, and I would very much appreciate it if you could do this at your earliest convenience.

We are looking forward to you commencing the review, and it continues to be very newsworthy. To that end, you should know it is likely to be the subject of a report on BBC 'Look East' on Thursday evening, following the receipt of a series of questions from a BBC journalist (no doubt informed by the Blakelands Residents Group). We can share our responses with you if needs be.

I know you have had an email exchange with Tammie, and we will be able to provide any necessary administrative support and the basic information you have asked for in terms of names of officers etc. Please liaise with Tammie on this in the first instance.

For your information, I am due to leave MKC at the end of this month, to take up a new role in my home town of Derby. As yet, we haven't agreed who will be the 'client' for the review following my departure, but this will be agreed before I go.

Regards

Paul

Paul Simpson

Deputy Chief Executive

T: [REDACTED]

M: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

Visit us online: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

Milton Keynes Council | Civic Offices | 1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ

Visit the Milton Keynes Council web site at <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk>

Any personal data will be processed in line with the Data Protection legislation, further details at <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/privacy>

Please consider the environment and don't print this email unless you really need to

**** This email and any attachments hereto are strictly confidential and intended solely for the addressee. It may contain information which is privileged. If you are not the intended addressee, you must not disclose, forward, copy or take any action in reliance of this email or attachments. If you have received this email in error, please delete it and notify us as soon as possible.

The anti-virus software used by Milton Keynes Council is updated regularly in an effort to minimise the possibility of viruses infecting our systems. However, you should be aware that there is no absolute guarantee that any files attached to this email are virus free.****