



Our Ref: FOI 1444/1447/1449/1448
30th October 2019

Dear Ms. Darling,

RE: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your emails of 3rd October 2019. I write to confirm we have completed the search for the information that you requested.

1. our reference 1444 – *all correspondence between DfE, Avanti, RSC SW and any other interested parties regarding the KS1 exemption at the three Steiner Academies - Bristol, Exeter and Frome. In particular please provide correspondence giving the Avanti and the DfE's detailed rationale for not continuing the KS1 exemption when Avanti take over the schools.*
2. our reference 1447 – *Avanti's supplementary funding agreements with the DfE for the academies currently known as Steiner Academy Bristol, Exeter and Frome.*
3. our reference 1448 – *detailed financial modelling for the different possible scenarios for the future of the school currently known as Steiner Academy Bristol (SAB), including maintaining the status quo of a primary and secondary school and for the school as a lower school and middle school (ending at age 14.)*
4. our reference 1449 – *the business case between Avanti and the RSC for the schools currently known as Steiner Academy Bristol, Frome and Exeter.*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response –

1. our reference 1444 - We are able to disclose the information that you have requested. Please see attached email communications.
2. our reference 1447 – the transfer of the above-mentioned three Steiner schools has not yet as taken place. Avanti Schools Trust (AST) does not hold the information that you have requested.



3. our reference 1448 - the information you have requested is being withheld under Section 41 (Information Provided in Confidence). Section 41 provides that information is exempt if it was provided in confidence. The information relating to your request was shared with Avanti Trust in the strictest confidence. It is our view that disclosure of such information would constitute an actionable breach of confidence and so disclosure would also be unlawful under the Act. In these circumstances, Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act confers an absolute exemption on disclosure and there is no requirement to balance the public interest test.
4. our reference 1449 - the information you have requested is not held by AST, there is no business case documentation in existence.

Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your requests, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Shamita Kumar, Avanti Schools Trust, Wemborough road, Stanmore, HA7 2EQ.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Avanti Schools Trust