

Contact: Julie Johnson
Direct tel: 03000 268 073
Email: inforights@durham.gov.uk
Our ref: 3219777



8/2/2022

Matthew Phillips

Dear Matthew Phillips

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

I am pleased to provide some of the information you have requested. I have enclosed copies of the information. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

Your request:

Dear Durham County Council,

I would like to request the results of any traffic modelling which may have been carried out to inform the design of the road layouts for the Sniperley Park housing development site, including the brief given to any consultant commissioned to produce traffic modelling studies. Please supply any studies produced since those for the County Durham Plan (i.e. since the 2018 AECOM report on the A167 and the deletion of the Western Relief Road from the County Durham Plan).

I would also like to know if any study has been done to identify what cycling and walking infrastructure improvements are required to make the site accessible and connect it with residential and employment areas to the east of the A167: which routes/facilities were identified for improvement and estimated costings for these.

I have read the proposed Sniperley Park masterplan and the Sniperley Healthy Active Travel Connectivity Plan. The latter mentions on page 3 "identified interventions, including costing and funding opportunities" but these are not present in the report. Can these be released, if they have been produced?

Our response:

In response to your Freedom of Information request (ref 3219777) in relation to the proposed development at Sniperly Park, please find attached the following:

Resources

Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UF
Main Telephone 03000 26 0000

Text Messaging Service 07797 870 192- your message must start with the word: INFO

- Technical note produced by Jacobs date July 2021 = Appendix A
- Sniperly Roundabout Development note dated February 2020 = Appendix B

With regard to the Sniperly Healthy Active Connectivity Plan, this document remains in draft form, and costs for the interventions mentioned on p3 of the report which you highlight, have yet to be finalised. Therefore, we are unable to release these at this current time. I can confirm that the remainder of the information you have requested is held by Durham County Council, by law. However, I'm unable to give this to you. This will be published in the future once completed.

The information requested is exempt from disclosure under Regulation 12(4)(d) of the Environmental Information regulations (EIRs). The information consists of material which is still in the course of completion, unfinished documents including drafts or incomplete data.

To use this exception we are required to undertake a public interest test. The matters which were considered in applying the public interest test are as follows:

Factors in favour of disclosure

Transparency of council practice.

Factors in favour of withholding

The council requires a need for safe space to complete documents and will publish when finalised.

To avoid confusion if documents are published in advance of completion which could be detrimental.

Draft and subject to change, so releasing now could prejudice due process

It is considered that the greater public interest therefore lies in not providing the information at this time. In coming to that conclusion, the public interest in providing the information has been carefully weighed against any prejudice to the public interest that might arise from withholding the information; in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under regulation 14 of the Environmental Information Regulations.

Please quote the reference number 3219777 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Please put your grounds for an appeal in writing and email us back explaining which internal review applies.

- Late (you want us to explain why the response was late or has not yet been provided)
- Disagree with exemption (wrong exemption, or applied incorrectly)
- Disagree with the public interest test (Explain in detail why you believe the public interest test favours disclosure.)
- Request is incomplete, information is missing (indicate what is missing), information is inaccurate Information is not what was requested.

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 inforigxxx@xxxxxx.xxv.uk

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 01625 545 700
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully
Julie Johnson
FOI & DP Officer

Resources

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Main Telephone 03000 26 0000

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