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Our ref: FOI2019/19495 18 October 2019

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Private Finance Initiative Deals

Thank you for your request for information of 17 September 2019 about Private Finance Initiative deals. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

The information you requested and our response are detailed below.

"Please can I request under the Freedom of Information Act the following information in relation to the 'PFI Eastbrook' Private Finance Initiative contract for offices, (construction completed 1/3/03):

1) The projected total (whole life) cost of the scheme, in £, detailed when the scheme was first agreed (i.e. the original projected cost of all Unitary Charge Payments over the full life of the scheme).

This information has not been found in the records. We are therefore writing to advise you that the information that you have requested is not held by Defra

2) The projected total (whole life) cost of the scheme, in £, as at August 1, 2019 (i.e. the real cost for previous years and projected cost for future years of all Unitary Charge Payments over the full life of the scheme).

Current calculations show with effect from Q1 2018, the projected total (whole life) cost of the scheme, (the real cost for previous years and projected cost for future years of all Unitary Charge Payments over the full life of the scheme) is estimated at £71,354,466.13. Please note that this covers a 30 year agreement, from the beginning of the scheme in 2003 to 2033, on a physically large site.

This is effected by:

- The Availability Payment Adjustment element of the Unitary Charge ceased to be payable from Q1 2019 further reducing the Unitary Charge
- The Unitary Charge is subject to annual indexation based on RPI; and
- The Unitary Charges from Q1 2020 to Q1 2033 are a forecast.



If there is a difference between 1 and 2, please can you provide details of:

A. The date(s) the projected costs changed

The projected costs changed in Q1 2018.

B. The reason(s) the projected costs changed

The Department operated the part break option effective in Q1 2018, reducing the footprint & Unitary Charges on site.

Information disclosed in response to this FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Team
InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights, Area 5B, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: lnformationRequests@defra.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF