

Date: 08/03/19  
Our Ref: RFI2611  
Your Ref: FOI Request – Great Glen, Leicestershire  
Tel: 0300 1234 500  
Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk



Homes  
England

[REDACTED]  
By Email Only

Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: Request for Information – RFI2611**

Thank you for your recent email, part of which was processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). For clarification, you requested the following information:

- 1) *The process you have been through to satisfy yourself that the arrangement with Leicester Grammar School has been sufficiently market tested and that you can demonstrate that you have achieved Best Value for the taxpayer.*
- 2) *The documentation to support Leicester Grammar School's statement that, from the date of opening, their strong links with the community of Great Glen has facilitated regular use of their sporting and recreational facilities on the campus across all age groups in the village. At the presentation I was advised that you have requested this information but that it had not been received.*
- 3) *The reasons for the apparent summary dismissal of the option of introducing a one-way traffic system for the Grammar School. A one-way system introducing traffic entering the school along Chestnut Drive would significantly reduce the traffic congestion, particularly for local residents. Please demonstrate the processes you have gone through, including any meetings and/ or discussion with the Grammar School and any other local parties who may have expressed an interest.*
- 4) *The rationale behind the inclusion of a rugby pitch for the Grammar School immediately adjacent to the ninety-four properties you propose to build yourselves. The inclusion of this pitch will mean that the Grammar School will, in fact, take ownership of the greater percentage of this entire site. Please demonstrate how this aligns with your stated aims of releasing government owned land for the purpose of alleviating the national housing crisis.*

**Response**

We are able to confirm that we processed questions 2 and 3 in accordance with the FOIA and that we processed questions 1 and 4 as general enquiries outside of the FOIA.

We do not believe that questions 1 and 4 constitute valid requests under the FOIA as they do not ask for recorded information held by Homes England.

We will first respond to questions 2 and 3 which we processed in accordance with the FOIA.

We are able to confirm that we hold some of the information that falls within the scope of your request and we will address each of your questions in turn below.

- 2) *The documentation to support Leicester Grammar School's statement that, from the date of opening, their strong links with the community of Great Glen has facilitated regular use of their sporting and recreational*

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*facilities on the campus across all age groups in the village. At the presentation I was advised that you have requested this information but that it had not been received.*

We are able to confirm that we do not hold the information that you have requested.

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 and Section 45 Code of Practice of the FOIA. To comply with this duty and to assist with your request you might wish to submit your request to Leicester Grammar School as they may hold information that falls within the scope of the question.

- 3) *The reasons for the apparent summary dismissal of the option of introducing a one-way traffic system for the Grammar School. A one-way system introducing traffic entering the school along Chestnut Drive would significantly reduce the traffic congestion, particularly for local residents. Please demonstrate the processes you have gone through, including any meetings and/ or discussion with the Grammar School and any other local parties who may have expressed an interest.*

We are able to confirm that we do hold information that falls within the scope of your request and can confirm that following the first consultation event on 21 November 2018 design discussions continued between Homes England and Leicester Grammar School. At a design workshop on 20 December 2019 representatives for Leicester Grammar School expressed an intention to increase on site vehicular circulation, car parking and coach waiting spaces with the current access being maintained from London Road, rather than a new access onto Chestnut Drive being created.

Draft plans were prepared by Homes England's design team in discussion with Leicester Grammar School before the consultation version was displayed on 6th February 2019 in Great Glen.

### **Right to Appeal**

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled you may request an internal review by writing to;

The Information Access Team  
Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Or via email [foi@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:foi@homesengland.gov.uk)

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.

The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

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We will now proceed to answer questions 1 and 4 outside of the FOIA and as general enquiries.

- 1) *The process you have been through to satisfy yourself that the arrangement with Leicester Grammar School has been sufficiently market tested and that you can demonstrate that you have achieved Best Value for the taxpayer.*

We are able to confirm that Homes England has complied with our internal Land Disposal Policy for this matter. Furthermore, we have a property agent working on this project who will be required to provide a signed valuation which will value the land and achieve best value for the tax payer.

- 4) *The rationale behind the inclusion of a rugby pitch for the Grammar School immediately adjacent to the ninety-four properties you propose to build yourselves. The inclusion of this pitch will mean that the Grammar School will, in fact, take ownership of the greater percentage of this entire site. Please demonstrate how this aligns with your stated aims of releasing government owned land for the purpose of alleviating the national housing crisis.*

The design team for Homes England have sought to ensure that future residents of the extra care facility and bungalows have the ability to view school sports activities taking place on the adjacent land thereby providing mental stimulation to residents. The contribution of circa 94 extra care housing units will address an identified need in Harborough District and add to the range of house types available in the Parish of Great Glen.

Yours sincerely,

**Information Access Team**

for Homes England.