Date: 08/03/19 Our Ref: RFI2627

Your Ref: FOI Request - Forward Fund Project

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk



Windsor House 50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL



# RE: Request for Information - RFI2627

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

Despite my best efforts to ascertain the current position on Kent County Council/Swale Borough Councils HIF funding bid, I am yet to receive any information.

I have now noticed that you are their HE Contact, so felt it was now time to ask you direct, under Freedom of Information Act what is the position with regards to the bidding for Highstead Park / road infrastructure?

#### Response

I am able to confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request. This is because there is no legal or business reason for Homes England to do so.

In order to conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Investments team who would have the information requested if held.

The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty under section 1(1) is only to provide the recorded information held.

The full text of section 1 in the legislation can be found here:

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/1

### **Advice and Assistance**

In accordance with section 16 and section 45 of the FOIA we have a duty to provide you with advice and assistance where possible. To comply with this duty, further to our email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 which we have enclosed with this response labelled Annex A, we are able to confirm that the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government announce successful bids as and when business cases are approved, after submission of business cases by local authorities.

This process will continue throughout the end of the year and into next year. We do not have an estimated end date as yet for decisions on all bids.

At this time, no announcement has been made about any bid by Kent County Council and therefore we do not hold the information you have requested, we may however hold information in the future if a bid is successful.

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It is important to inform you Homes England do not manage this programme. For clarification, we run the portal for bids and help assessment but it is the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government that make the decisions. We this being the case you may wish to direct your request to MHCLG.

Knowledge & Information Access Team
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
2nd floor NW, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
United Kingdom

Email: mhclgcorrespondence@communities.gov.uk

## **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

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.

Yours sincerely, Information Access Team for Homes England.