



Homes
England

Date: 24/12/2019

Our Ref: RFI2859

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: foi@homesengland.gov.uk

Making homes happen

██████████
By Email Only

Windsor House
Homes England – 6th Floor
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Dear ██████████,

RE: Request for Information – RFI2859

Thank you for your recent email, which was processed under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). For clarification, you requested the following information:

1. *This is a Freedom of Information Request concerning the Homes England (HE) site no 12008 being Land at Compton, West Berkshire – locally known as the Pirbright Site*
2. *The Pirbright Institute is an institute of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), whose primary function is to fund biological and biotechnological scientific research. The Institute delivered applied science at the site focused on infectious diseases of farm animals. In addition to research, the site provided diagnostic services for a number of diseases and gives expert advice to the UK government and international agencies. Originally the Agricultural Research Centre Compton Station, the site was occupied from 1942 until 2015, and as a result the village has grown around the site and integrated it into community life.*
3. *Prior to putting the site on the market, amongst other surveys, HE conducted an Intrusive Site Inspection (ISI) on the site, at the end of 2018 into 2019, to explore the type, origin and quantity of contamination.*
4. ***The information that I would like you to disclose is the resultant ISI report and HE's consequent action plan for contamination remediation***

Response

We can confirm that we do hold information that falls within the scope of your request. Please find attached the following Annexes:

Annex A – Phase 1 Geotechnical and Geo-environmental desk study report (divided into two parts due to file size)

Annex B – Ground Investigation Report (divided into three parts due to file size)

Please note that we have redacted information under Regulation 13 of the EIR.

Regulation 13 – Personal Data

We have redacted information on the grounds that it constitutes third party personal data and therefore engages Regulation 13 of the EIR.

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To disclose personal data, such as names, contact details, addresses, email addresses and personal opinions could lead to the identification of third parties and would breach one or more of the data protection principles.

Regulation 13 is an absolute exception which means that we do not need to consider the public interest in disclosure. Once it is established that the information is personal data of a third party and release would breach one or more of the data protection principles, then the exception is engaged.

The full text in the legislation can be found on the following link;
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3391/regulation/13/made>

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
Homes England – 6th Floor
Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Or by email to 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 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Information Access Team
For Homes England

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