



Homes
England

Making homes happen

Date: 1 June 2022

Our Ref: RFI3886

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

██████████
By Email Only

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

Dear ██████████

RE: Request for Information – RFI3886

Thank you for your recent email, which was processed under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

You requested the following information:

Business Case - HIF/FF/000069/BC/01 submitted to Homes England by Cambridge City Council for the Cambridge Northern Fringe East (CNFE) advises that the proposed site for relocation of the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant (CWWTP) "will be located at a greenfield location" but states that the relocation of the CWWTP will reduce impact to the Green Belt, as follows:

Page 17: "Making best use of this brownfield site within the urban area will help reduce the need to consider other sites at locations lower in the development sequence, including pressure for further release of land in the Green Belt"

Page 24: "NPPF2 expects all reasonable options to be assessed before land is released from the Green Belt."

However, the business case does not appear to inform Homes England that the proposed relocation of the CWWTP would be to a Green Belt location, and therefore contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework and the stated intention of the Prime minister Mr Boris Johnson not to develop in the Green Belt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act please confirm if Homes England was made aware by the applicant that the proposed relocation of the CWWTP, for which funding was sought, would be to a Green Belt location?

OFFICIAL



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Response

Regulation 12(4)(a) – Information not Held

Under regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR, Homes England may refuse to disclose information if the requested information is not held by that public authority.

When relying on Regulation 12(4)(a), Homes England must also advise details of any other public authority to whom the requestor could redirect their request to, and in accordance with this we can advise that you may wish to contact Cambridge City Council.

Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that at the time of the Business Case and the Grant Funding Agreement the proposed location had not been identified. Homes England was made aware of possible notional locations, including some in the Green Belt, and that the final decision on the relocation site would be subject to planning approval.

Right to make Representations

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 a reconsideration of our response (Internal Review). You can make this representation by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

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Your request for reconsideration must be made in writing, explain why you wish to appeal, and be received within 40 working days of the date of this response (Reg 11(2)). Failure to meet this criteria may lead to your request being refused.

Upon receipt, your request for reconsideration will be passed to an independent party not involved in your original request. We aim to issue a response within 20 working days.

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 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,

The Information Governance Team
For Homes England