



Homes  
England

Making homes happen

Date: 16 August 2022

Our Ref: RFI3992 & RFI4011

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

██████████  
By Email Only

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

Dear ██████████

**RE: Request for Information – RFI3992 and RFI4011**

Thank you for your requests for information which have been processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You submitted two requests to Homes England and for ease we have addressed them both in this response.

You requested the following information:

**RFI3992:**

*The Green Space Campaign Group should like to know if Homes England granted City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council approximately £500,000 in or around 2016 in order that it could request tenders to demolish the old college buildings on North Street/Cavendish Street, Keighley in the hope, vain as it turned out, of rendering the site more commercially saleable. We should also like to know if you have subsequently received any financial documentation to prove that the contractor was paid in full (£403,000 according to CBMDC's tendering documentation).*

*We have already asked, through FOI, that CBMDC prove that the full amount was paid but have been shown only an internally generated document showing a figure of £7,000. A figure of £80,000 is shown in the demolition contract as expected to proceed from the sale of reclaimed stone but these are the only figures established beyond doubt. Please can you provide an audit trail showing the award granted, evidence of disbursement, repayment of unspent grant and closure of account.*

**RFI4011:**

*The Green Space Campaign Group should like to see the agreement between Homes England and CBMDC under which Homes England granted City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council approximately £500,000 in or around 2016 (subsequent to the original Yorkshire Forward grant of £4.3m, which was paid by CBMDC straight to Keighley College for the 3 old college sites). This subsequent grant from Homes England was to be spent on the demolition of the old college buildings on the site in Keighley at the junction of North Street and Cavendish Street. We should also like to see your evidence showing what CBMDC spent on the demolition, in cash and kind, any balance returned to Homes England and Homes England's independently verified evidence that the contractor was paid in full.*

OFFICIAL



Date: 16 August 2022

Our Ref: RFI3992 & RFI4011

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

### **Response**

We can confirm that Homes England does not hold the information detailed in your request.

To conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Contingent Assets and Liabilities team who would have the requested information 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**

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. To comply with this duty we are able to confirm that Homes England do not have a record of:

- funding/an agreement granting the amount of approximately £500,000 to the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in or around 2016 for tenders for demolition, subsequent to the original grant of £4.3m
- financial documentation regarding payment of the contractor
- evidence of award granted, disbursement, repayment or closure
- evidence of what CBMDC spent on the demolition, evidence of payment, balance returned

In relation to the site referenced, we have no record of any payments or financial documentation relating to payments or repayments. As you are aware, 'Yorkshire Forward' (Yorkshire & Humber Regional Development Agency) was involved in granting funding to the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in relation to this site in 2006. Yorkshire Forward was a regional development agency upon whose closure some assets became the responsibility of Homes England. However, as the payments you reference are likely to have taken place before the transfer of the asset to Homes England we would not have been involved. We have reviewed our files held regarding the site and can confirm that we do not hold the information in your request. Any documents held by Yorkshire Forward may have been destroyed in line with our retention policy.

### **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. You can request an internal review by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

The Information Governance Team  
Homes England – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street  
London



Homes  
England

Making homes happen

Date: 16 August 2022

Our Ref: RFI3992 & RFI4011

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

SW1H 0TL

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

Upon receipt, your request for review 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

OFFICIAL