

Date: 21 March 2024 Our Ref: RFI4647 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: <u>infogov@homesengland.gov.uk</u>

By Email Only

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI4647

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

You requested the following information:

The former Institute of Animal Health site is currently being remediated with an external company. I would like to know:

1. How much is the decontamination and remediation costing?

2. Who is covering this cost?

3. Has the land been sold to a developer? If it has been sold, who had it been sold to and how much was it sold for?

4. If the land hasn't been sold, please can you explain the process for selling this land and where the land is be advertised?

Response

We can confirm that we do hold some of the requested information. We will answer your questions in turn below:

1. How much is the decontamination and remediation costing?

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

6th Floor Windsor House 42 - 50 Victoria Street, Westminster London, SW1H 0TL

0300 1234 500 @HomesEngland www.gov.uk/homes-england



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To conclude that the information is not held, we have searched with our Planning and Enabling team who would have the requested information if held.

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

Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Regulation 9(1) of the EIR. To comply with this duty, we are able to confirm that due to the nature of the work the final cost isn't known at present. The decontamination and remediation work is ongoing and it's unclear to what extent we will require the services of the contractor.

2. Who is covering this cost?

We can confirm that Homes England will be covering the cost.

3. Has the land been sold to a developer? If it has been sold, who had it been sold to and how much was it sold for?

We can confirm the site has not been sold to a developer at this time.

4. If the land hasn't been sold, please can you explain the process for selling this land and where the land is be advertised?

We can confirm the disposal route to sell the site has not been decided at this time. This will be decided and advertised once the demolition works are closer to completing.

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.

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The Information Governance Team Homes England 6th Floor Windsor House 42 - 50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL

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

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