

Date: 18 September 2024 Our Ref: RFI4867 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI4867

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

You requested the following information:

We have recently purchased a new house at

Basildon Essex

Among the documents we have received following the purchase is a letter from The Basildon Development Corporation dated 19th April 1984 giving approval for an Alteration/Extension to the property.

The letter does not state what was actually to be done but we need to know what work was carried out. We understand from Basildon Council that you hold the records for the now disbanded Basildon Development Corporation.

The reference on the letter is SE/CK6912/13 signed by the head of planning H D Bacon. Can you help and provide us with the details of the planned approved works please.

2nd Floor The Lumen St James Boulevard, Newcastle Helix Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5BZ

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



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<u>Response</u>

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.

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 Homes England is the correct residual agency for work undertaken by the Basildon Development Corporation.

Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that our predecessor bodies did not have the ability to grant planning permissions. That could only be done by the local Council authority.

It is feasible that someone may have sought a consent from Basildon Development Corporation, if it were a clause in their deeds that they had to do so.

Whilst we have some of the deeds from Basildon Development Corporation, I regret many of these files have been reviewed and destroyed as there was no business purpose for us to continue holding them. We have checked our databases and regret that we have no files or deeds for any property on your street.

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

The Information Governance Team Homes England 2nd Floor The Lumen St James Boulevard

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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

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