

Date: 16 January 2025 Our Ref: RFI4980 Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear



RE: Request for Information - RFI4980

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

You requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information regarding the Temple Square Plaza development in Bristol, which your organization acquired from Bristol City Council on March 18th, 2024.

Please provide:

- 1. The current status and progression of the Temple Square Plaza development project, including any milestones achieved since acquisition and planned upcoming phases
- 2. The estimated or projected completion date for the Temple Square Plaza development
- 3. Any current challenges or issues affecting the project's progress, and steps being taken to address these
- 4. The current intended design and usage plans for the site, including any revisions made to the original plans since acquisition
- 5. Details of any public consultations planned or undertaken regarding this development since March 2024

Response

We can confirm that we do hold some of the requested information. We will address each point in turn.

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





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1. The current status and progression of the Temple Square Plaza development project, including any milestones achieved since acquisition and planned upcoming phases

We can confirm Homes England intends to enter option agreements on the Temple Square site with Bristol Temple Quarter (BTQ) LLP. The site forms part of comprehensive master planning work being undertaken by the BTQ LLP. It is intended that the BTQ LLP will launch a procurement for a private sector delivery partner in early 2025.

2. The estimated or projected completion date for the Temple Square Plaza development

We can confirm we currently have no projected completion date for the Temple Square Plaza development.

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.

Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that the Private Sector partner will work with the BTQ LLP to develop a delivery programme for the entire regeneration project at Bristol Temple Quarter. However, we do not know what the timescales will be until this delivery programme is devised.

3. Any current challenges or issues affecting the project's progress, and steps being taken to address these

We can confirm we currently have not identified any challenges or issues that will affect the project progress.

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.

Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that a delivery programme has yet to be devised. It is therefore too early to know if the project will encounter any challenges or issues.

4. The current intended design and usage plans for the site, including any revisions made to the original plans since acquisition

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.

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Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that a prospective purchaser of the site put forward development proposals prior to Homes England acquiring the site. The plans proposed at that time are no longer current and will not be brought forward by Homes England, as such no revisions to those plans have been made.

In order to assist you further, we can confirm Homes England does intend to enter option agreements on the Temple Square site with Bristol Temple Quarter (BTQ) LLP. It is intended that the BTQ LLP will launch a procurement for a private sector delivery partner in the first quarter of 2025. The private sector partner will then develop plans for the site as part of the comprehensive master plan for BTQ.

To be clear, there is a vision for the site which can be explored on the dedicated website, but no plans have been finalised at this time. You can access the dedicated website for the project via the following link:

https://www.bristoltemplequarter.com

5. Details of any public consultations planned or undertaken regarding this development since March 2024

We can confirm that no public consultations have been undertaken regarding Temple Square since it was acquired in April 2024.

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.

Regulation 9(1) provides that an authority must provide advice and assistance to applicants and in accordance with this we can advise that consultations will take place at the appropriate time as the regeneration project progresses with the private sector partner towards a planning application.

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.

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The Information Governance Team
Homes England
2nd Floor
The Lumen
St James Boulevard
Newcastle Helix
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 5BZ

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

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