

Date: 3 March 2025 Our Ref: RFI5029 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: <u>infogov@homesengland.gov.uk</u>

By Email Only

Dear

# RE: Request for Information – RFI5029

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

Right of Way dated 14th February 1985 **Sector 1** to British Railways board Copy filed under HS189368 I understand from EP English Partnership, the above right was taken without notice to users Accordingly, English partnership advised A figure-was agreed To purchase same at £50.000 the agreement was found by English partnership in storage but was never concluded. English partnership employee **1** refused to send a copy Ultimately, this matter Remains open and needs concluding this right of way is a ransom strip to the goole site that has been developed and occupied by major companies Guardian glass Siemens train factory to name a few Please provide a copy of the Purchase agreement and it's attachments **1** And Goole development agency/URG/ English partnership, which ever body participated

## <u>Response</u>

## Section 14(2) – Repeated Requests

We have considered your above request and have concluded that a response is refused under Section 14(2) of the FOIA.

The full text of the legislation can be found on the following link: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/14</u>

The Lumen 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor St James Boulevard Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ

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Where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent *identical* or *substantially similar* request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

We have received 6 previous requests for the requested information in relation to this site from you over a period of more than four years. This includes requests made outside of the FOIA regime and frequent correspondence between yourself, Homes England's site Project Team and our Legal department. These requests total approximately 150 email correspondence in relation to this site and your latest FOI request is a clear example of an attempt to ignore previous correspondence made to you in order to try to gain information you think Homes England has been withholding.

On the 28 November 2024, a response from our legal team was issued to you which included a response to a request which was substantially similar to that of the above and also submitted by you. It was made clear in this response that Homes England does not own the site upon which Oakhill Pond sits and that you had previously released all rights of way over the adjoining land belonging to Homes England. We have considered your new request and determined that we have already provided you all information that Homes England holds, and we dispute your claim Homes England is responsible for any losses of income. Furthermore, it was advised by our Legal team that we will only respond to future correspondence at our discretion, especially if it raises new matters requiring a response. Our CEO's office also informed you on October 14, 2024, that they will no longer engage with you. Therefore Section 14(2) is engaged and maintained.

We have determined that your requests for information are weighed towards a 'personal' rather than 'public' interest and that FOIA is not the appropriate route for pursuing your enquiries. Given the history of requests made, we do not consider that any further response(s) issued would result in the matter being closed to your satisfaction.

Once the first Section 14(2) refusal notice has been issued, we will not continue to acknowledge or respond to repeated requests. Please take this is as the first refusal notice. However, should a reasonable interval elapse before the request is resubmitted or if a new request is received from you that is substantially different in nature, we will process said request under the FOIA.

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#### **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

Information Governance Team Homes England The Lumen 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor St James Boulevard Newcastle Helix Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5BZ United Kingdom

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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