

Date: 11 June 2025 Our Ref: RFI4505 Tel: 0300 1234 500 Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

By Email Only

Dear

RE: Request for Information – RFI4505

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We would firstly like to apologise for the long delay in providing this response to you. Our handling of your request has fallen outside the time for compliance as set out in the FOIA and below the standards we strive to provide. We also recognise that we have not kept you sufficiently informed as to the progress of your request, we are really sorry about this.

We recognise now that the information you have requested may no longer be relevant to you, however we have endeavoured to provide you with a response which follows below.

You requested the following information:

1) Confirmation that The Homes and Communities Agency, Trading as "Homes England", holds a copy of the Business Case HIF/FF/000069/BC/01 - Cambridge Northern Fringe East (CNFE) submitted by Cambridge City Council in request for the forward funding award of a maximum sum of £227m for relocation of the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Works, including:

a) Business Case Page 29 which explains the range of costs across two sites from £167m to £227m and why the £227m upper range was included in the grant to allow a site further from the existing works to be considered.

b) Business Case Page 133 which states:

Please refer to the cost estimates for the relocation of CWRC (short and long tunnel options) included in Appendix R. Both of these options have been included because the location of the relocated CWRC is unknown at the moment, therefore, the longer option cost has been used as the potential maximum cost.

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c) Business Case Appendix R – Cost Plan for the CWRC relocation, which provides the high-level cost estimates for the relocation of the CWRC. Two options are included. One estimate relates to the shorter tunnel option of £167m. The other estimate relates to the longer tunnel option of £227m.

2) Please confirm that in administering the Forward Funding Grant, including; the provision of Monthly Monitoring Reports, membership of the CNFE Communications Working Group and conducting due diligence in approval of requests made for payment of Enabling Costs, Homes England is conversant with the site currently proposed by Anglian Water for relocation, at Honey Hill.

3) Please confirm when the Forward Funding Maximum Sum will be updated to reflect the correct site currently proposed by Anglian Water, as opposed to the Maximum Sum of £227m for the long tunnel option East of Waterbeach that has since been dropped from the assessment.

<u>Response</u>

We can confirm that we do hold the requested information. We will address each of your questions in turn below.

1) Confirmation that The Homes and Communities Agency, Trading as "Homes England", holds a copy of the Business Case HIF/FF/000069/BC/01 - Cambridge Northern Fringe East (CNFE) submitted by Cambridge City Council in request for the forward funding award of a maximum sum of £227m for relocation of the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Works, including:

- a) Business Case Page 29 which explains the range of costs across two sites from £167m to £227m and why the £227m upper range was included in the grant to allow a site further from the existing works to be considered.
- b) Business Case Page 133 which states: Please refer to the cost estimates for the relocation of CWRC (short and long tunnel options) included in Appendix R. Both of these options have been included because the location of the relocated CWRC is unknown at the moment, therefore, the longer option cost has been used as the potential maximum cost.
- c) Business Case Appendix R Cost Plan for the CWRC relocation, which provides the high-level cost estimates for the relocation of the CWRC. Two options are included. One estimate relates to the shorter tunnel option of £167m. The other estimate relates to the longer tunnel option of £227m.

We can confirm that Homes England does hold a copy of Business Case HIF/FF/000069/BC/01. We can confirm that the Business Case does include the information listed in points a – c as outlined in your request.

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2) Please confirm that in administering the Forward Funding Grant, including; the provision of Monthly Monitoring Reports, membership of the CNFE Communications Working Group and conducting due diligence in approval of requests made for payment of Enabling Costs, Homes England is conversant with the site currently proposed by Anglian Water for relocation, at Honey Hill.

We can confirm we are familiar with the site proposed by Anglian Water for relocation at Honey Hill.

3) Please confirm when the Forward Funding Maximum Sum will be updated to reflect the correct site currently proposed by Anglian Water, as opposed to the Maximum Sum of £227m for the long tunnel option East of Waterbeach that has since been dropped from the assessment.

We can confirm that there are currently no plans to update the maximum sum however it will be reviewed and subject to approval, updated if necessary, before the commencement to delivery stage. Please see link below which contains further information in relation to the updated funding position as of April 2024. <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cambridge-waste-water-treatment-plant-relocation-dco-decision-announced</u>

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 2nd 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.

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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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