

Level 10
1 Stratford Place
Montfichet Road
London
E20 1EJ

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

27 January 2017

INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE 16134

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request, received on 9 December 2016. You asked E20 Stadium LLP (E20) and London Legacy Development Corporation (Legacy Corporation) to provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

I am writing to request information regarding the cost of removing the 'West Ham United' sign at the London Stadium (as per this article: <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/west-ham-sign-to-be-taken-down-5kpcp9cqn>).

Specifically I would like to know:

- *The total cost of removing (or covering) and then restoring the sign broken down by cost item.*
- *How many further times the sign is expected to be taken down and restored at taxpayers' expense.*

E20 and the Legacy Corporation can confirm that they hold information relevant to your request. Our response follows your order.

- *The total cost of removing (or covering) and then restoring the sign broken down by cost item.*

The requirement to remove or conceal the sign has yet to be agreed with London 2017, the organisers of the IPC Para Athletics World Championships and IAAF World Athletics

Championships, and it is entirely possible that the sign will remain, as is, during both championships. It should also be noted that this is just one method of removing West Ham branding from the stadium should a non West Ham event require it, and that concealment is an alternative solution that is being explored.

The cost to remove the marquee signage and then reinstate it has been estimated based on the activities required which are:

- Manufacture of Transportation "A" Frames
- Hire costs for a Large Flatbed Low Loader Lorry with mounted crane
- Hire costs for 2-off 135 Genie Boom MEWPs
- Hire of Heras Fencing for creating safe working zones around MEWPS
- 2-off Teams of Installation Engineers (2 x 2man crews)
- Delivery of Marquee Sign to nearby storage location

As this service has not yet been procured, the estimated figure is being withheld under section 43(2) commercial interests.

S.43(2) - Commercial interests.

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

The section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and subject to the prejudice test and the public interest test. Under the prejudice test we have to consider if disclosure of this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice our commercial interests or the commercial interests of a third party.

Consideration is also given to the harm disclosing this information would be likely to cause, combined with other information already in the public domain (mosaic effect) or possibly released at a future date (precedent effect). The public interest test considers and balances the public interest in disclosing this information against the public interest in not disclosing this information and uses this assessment to decide whether there is sufficient justification in withholding this information under this exemption.

Information disclosed under the FOIA is considered to be public information, and while there is a presumption towards disclosure, consideration needs to be given as to who will have access to this information beyond the requestor and the purposes for which they could use the information.

The Legacy Corporation and E20 have assessed the impact of releasing the estimated cost for this service at this time. There is, of course, a public interest in promoting transparency of the decisions and accountability in regards to public sector bodies, however, the disclosure of this information before the procurement of the service has been undertaken would prejudice commercial interests of E20 and the Legacy Corporation as releasing the estimated cost will impact on the procurement exercise and following negotiations and harm E20's ability to achieve best value for the public purse.

It is the view of E20 and the Legacy Corporation that, at this time, the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

- *How many further times the sign is expected to be taken down and restored at taxpayers' expense.*

There are no other events in the Stadium's foreseeable calendar that could possibly require the sign to be removed or concealed. In the unlikely event that a non West Ham event owner (i.e. a concert promoter) would require the sign to be removed or concealed, the cost of removal/concealment would be passed onto the Event Owner as part of their venue hire fee.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Director
E20 Stadium LLP
Level 10
1 Stratford Place
Montfichet Road
London
E20 1EJ

Please note: complaints and requests for internal review received more than two months after the initial response will not be handled.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may appeal directly to the Information Commissioner at the address given below. You should do this within two months of our final decision. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Further information on the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is available from the Information Commissioner's Office:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Telephone 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

FOI / EIR Co-ordinator
London Legacy Development Corporation / E20 Stadium LLP