

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Request  
**Date:** 22 February 2018 15:06:00

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Dear [REDACTED]

I can confirm that your request for information has been received and a response will be sent to you within 20 working days [21 March 2018].

Your reference for this request is 18-011. Please quote this reference in any correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Coordinator

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00  
**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

Could you please provide the following:

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)

Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [Gerry.Murphy](#); [REDACTED]; [Mark.Robinson](#); [Alan.Skewis](#); [Alan.Fort](#); [Ashish.Sharma](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI Notification 18-011 Stadium WH pitch surround  
**Date:** 22 February 2018 15:17:00

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We have received the below information request:

**Request:** *This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>*

*refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.*

*Could you please provide the following:*

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*Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.*

*Thank you*

[REDACTED]

#### **Next actions required:**

1. Please let me know as soon as possible if you **hold this information**, and if not, who you think does.
2. Please can you confirm immediately if **clarification is required** – with advice on the clarification required, where possible.
3. Please let me know how long you believe it would take to identify, retrieve and extract all of the information requested.
4. Please confirm who will be handling the response from your team.
5. Please let me have the **information requested as soon as possible**.

#### **Request details**

**Response Deadline:** 21 March 2018

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this request.

**This Request Notification is an auditable document, which will be saved in the Request Folder as an Outlook item**

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED] [londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)

Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [Gerry Murphy](#); [Alan Skewis](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Request  
**Date:** 06 March 2018 16:42:00

---

Yes, you both first then I need HR sign off.

██████████

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**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 06 March 2018 16:40  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>; Alan Skewis <[AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com](mailto:AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request

Ok, that's fine thanks, do you need to get HR to ok?

---

On: 06 March 2018 16:17,  
"foi" <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Hi Gerry

I don't have a list of emails to search. For both E20 & LLDC I'm going to run the search across the whole domain rather than specific email accounts so that we can know definitely that no relevant accounts were missed from the search.

██████████

---

**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 06 March 2018 15:56  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>; Alan Skewis <[AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com](mailto:AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request

Ok, can I have a list of those emails you will be searching, Thks

On: 06 March 2018 15:34, "foi" <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I'm sorry for bothering you both, but we have received the below FOI request and I need to search the email archive in order to fully respond and I need approval from both of you in order to get access.

I intend to restrict the searches to the individual domains, to the dates within the request (20/10/2016 to 31/12/2017), to or from the west ham email domain and for emails containing the specific term "pitch surround".

Please can you respond by email if you approve the access? I will then get Rachel M to sign the access request form and HR (Andrea or [REDACTED] to sign off the request and ask Civica for the access.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00

**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

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Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Alan Skewis](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Request  
**Date:** 07 March 2018 10:24:52

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[REDACTED]

OK with me.

We do probably have them already for the expert determination. [REDACTED] can you speak to [REDACTED]

Alan

---

**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 06 March 2018 16:40  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>; Alan Skewis <[AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com](mailto:AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request

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[REDACTED]

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**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>; Alan Skewis <[AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com](mailto:AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com)>  
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Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00  
**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
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Thank you

[REDACTED]

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [Alan Skewis](#); [REDACTED] [Mark Robinson](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 18-011 Stadium WH pitch surround  
**Date:** 09 March 2018 11:12:00  
**Attachments:** [West Ham bid to change colour around the pitch to claret to help players see the touchline.pdf](#)  
[FOI Request.msg](#)  
[18-011 emails v0.2 \(2\).pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

For this FOI (request below), I've run a search in the email archive on the @londonlegacy and @e20stadium email domains. The search criteria was for any email sent to or from @westhamunited.co.uk between 20/10/2016 and 31/12/2017 (inclusive) where the entire message contained the term "pitch surround".

I've reviewed the emails from the search and removed those that were duplicates, lower levels within a chain, etc.

The next step is for the emails to be reviewed and to identify any information that cannot be released.

I think the easiest approach would be for us to have a meeting to go through the emails. So I have attached the relevant emails and I will organise a meeting for us to go through them, hopefully early next week but allowing time for you to read through the emails beforehand.

I haven't notified Gowlings of this request yet but will be sending them this information – please let me know who the main contact should be.

Please note that I still need information in relation to the second question (see below). Please can you send me as soon as possible, any documentation you hold that relates to the c£200k proposed costs for the pitch surround?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

*Could you please provide the following:*

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting*
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## West Ham bid to change colour around the pitch to claret to help players see the touchline

KEN DYER

[West Ham](#) say they have run into a brick wall in their efforts to add to the colour of match day at the [London Stadium](#) by painting part of the pitch surround a different colour from green.

Slaven Bilic, West Ham's manager, writes in his [exclusive column in the Evening Standard](#) that his players would benefit from having the area surrounding the pitch painted claret, part of the club colours, with the club prepared to pay the estimated cost of £200,000.

"We have a great stadium but we want to improve it even more though, to make it like, for example, the Parc des Princes, home of Paris Saint-Germain," [writes Bilic](#).

"If you look at their stadium, they have changed the colour of the area around their pitch to blue. We want to do something similar and change to a darker colour - claret.

"Let me explain it like this. It is impossible to bring the crowd closer but we can improve things by changing the perspective.

"Imagine you are a player, you are running back to defend or you are joining the attack – you look up and it is not easy, because everything is green ahead of you, to appreciate exactly where is the end of the pitch and that can psychologically affect your willingness to do it.



- [Read more](#)

[Bilic exclusive: Changing colour around the pitch will help Hammers](#)

"We have done everything we can to receive permission to do this, especially our vice chairman Karren Brady. I am mentioning it almost every time I meet her.

"I know Karren has tried very hard and talked to all of the parties involved but we can't seem to get the necessary permission from the powers that be. It's not clear to me why but I believe it would make a big difference, so I am hoping approval will be given soon.

"We have even offered to pay for the work which, so I understand, would cost around £200,000."

However, an E20 spokesperson said: "E20 and West Ham have been jointly working on the installation of a blue pitch surround.

"This would be appropriate for both West Ham games and other London Stadium events.

"This colour also met the club's requirement to help their players distinguish the playing area from the pitch surround.

"West Ham have recently informed us that they no longer wish to pursue this solution.

"E20 remain happy to explore options for a new surround that meet the multi-use nature of the London Stadium and look forward to hearing more from the club."

More about: | [London Stadium](#) | [Slaven Bilic](#)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [foi](#)  
**Subject:** FOI Request  
**Date:** 21 February 2018 14:00:29

---

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

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Thank you

[REDACTED]

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [Alan Skewis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: FOI 18-011 Stadium WH pitch surround  
**Date:** 19 March 2018 14:52:00  
**Attachments:** [West Ham bid to change colour around the pitch to claret to help players see the touchline.pdf](#)  
[FOI Request.msg](#)  
[18-011 emails v0.2 \(2\).pdf](#)

---

Good afternoon Alan,

Can you give me an update on how the email review is progressing? When do you think you will complete the first pass?

Many thanks

████████

---

**From:** foi  
**Sent:** 09 March 2018 11:12  
**To:** Alan Skewis <AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com>; ██████████  
<████████@londonlegacy.co.uk>; Mark Robinson <MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Cc:** ██████████ <████████@e20stadium.com>  
**Subject:** FOI 18-011 Stadium WH pitch surround

Good morning,

For this FOI (request below), I've run a search in the email archive on the @londonlegacy and @e20stadium email domains. The search criteria was for any email sent to or from @westhamunited.co.uk between 20/10/2016 and 31/12/2017 (inclusive) where the entire message contained the term "pitch surround".

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Many thanks



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*Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.*

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [foi](#)  
Subject: Re: FOI Request 18-011  
Date: 21 March 2018 14:36:47

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Thank you for the confirmation; and for the common sense approach to the terminology in your search.

I look forward to hearing from you further

Yours

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Mar 21, 2018 at 1:16 PM, foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding to this request. As you know, the Freedom of Information Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly and no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case.

We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider the public interest test, however, in this case we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

I have extended the due date by an additional 20 working days to 20 April 2018. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies, I will keep you informed, however, I will do everything I can to respond as soon as possible.

The exemption that applies in relation to your request and that requires the extra time in order to consider the public interest is: section 43 (2) – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

\*Please note, with relation to your original request, apparently the main term used is “Pitch surround” rather than carpeting so the searches were run using that terminology, on both the E20 and LLDC email domains and using the date range provided so that the search results were not too broad.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Coordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

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Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

This communication and the information it contains is intended for the addressee only. It

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC FOI 18-011  
**Date:** 22 March 2018 12:23:00

---

Hi [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your advice, it helps a lot.

For 3&4 - I usually include a schedule for each piece of (relevant) information redacted along with the applicable exemption, especially when there are different ones applied to the same page (e.g. 43 & 40) as is likely in this instance, as it makes everything a lot clearer for both sides.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 22 March 2018 12:12  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC FOI 18-011

Hi [REDACTED]

My thoughts set out below using your numbering:-

1. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

3&4 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Hope that helps

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 11:13



To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: LLDC FOI 18-011

Good morning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [Alan.Skewis](mailto:Alan.Skewis)  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC / E20 FOI 18-011 Pitch surround - provided in confidence [EFILE-Legal02.FID940990]  
**Date:** 26 March 2018 07:55:53

---

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Alan, I'll discuss this with you today.

[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gowlingwlg.com>  
**Date:** Sat, March 24, 2018 8:54 a.m. +0000  
**To:** Alan Skewis <AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com>, [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC / E20 FOI 18-011 Pitch surround - provided in confidence [EFILE-Legal02.FID940990]

[REDACTED]

[EXTRACTED - NOT RELEVANT]

---

**From:** Alan Skewis [mailto:AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday 24 March 2018 00:15  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC / E20 FOI 18-011 Pitch surround - provided in confidence [EFILE-Legal02.FID940990]

[REDACTED]

Can we discuss Monday.

Alan

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gowlingwlg.com>  
**Date:** Fri, March 23, 2018 8:30 pm +0000  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**CC:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gowlingwlg.com>, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gowlingwlg.com>, Alan Skewis <AlanSkewis@e20stadium.com>, Alan Fort <alanfort@e20stadium.com>, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@tube.tfl.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC / E20 FOI 18-011 Pitch surround - provided in confidence [EFILE-Legal02.FID940990]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)]

**Sent:** Wednesday 21 March 2018 12:43

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** LLDC / E20 FOI 18-011 Pitch surround - provided in confidence

Good afternoon,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email [\[REDACTED\]@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)  
Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Request 18-011  
**Date:** 20 April 2018 11:11:00

---

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please accept my apologies but our response will not be ready to release today as I had hoped as we are still considering the public interest in relation to the exemption s.43(2).

I will extend the due date by 20 working days (21 May) but I will send it to you as soon as the response is ready.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Co-ordinator

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 14:37  
**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 18-011

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Dear [REDACTED]

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We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider the public interest test, however, in this case we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

I have extended the due date by an additional 20 working days to 20 April 2018. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies, I will keep you informed, however, I will do everything I can to respond as soon as possible.

The exemption that applies in relation to your request and that requires the extra time in order to consider the public interest is: section 43 (2) – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

\*Please note, with relation to your original request, apparently the main term used is “Pitch surround” rather than carpeting so the searches were run using that terminology, on both the E20 and LLDC email domains and using the date range provided so that the search results were not too broad.

Yours sincerely,

██████████

FOI/EIR Coordinator

---

**From:** ██████████ [mailto:██████████@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00

**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

Could you please provide the following:

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)

Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

██████████

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**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]@gmail.com  
**Subject:** FOI Request 18-011  
**Date:** 21 May 2018 15:45:00

---

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Please accept my apologies but our response will not be ready to release today as I had hoped. Please be assured that work is progressing but we are still considering the public interest test in relation to some of the exemptions.

I will extend the due date by 20 working days (19 June) but I will send it to you as soon as I possibly can.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Co-ordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 14:37  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 18-011

Thank you for the confirmation; and for the common sense approach to the terminology in your search.

I look forward to hearing from you further

Yours

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Mar 21, 2018 at 1:16 PM, foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding to this request. As you know, the Freedom of Information Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly and no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case.

We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider the public interest test, however, in this case we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

I have extended the due date by an additional 20 working days to 20 April 2018. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies, I will keep you informed, however, I will do everything I can to respond as soon as possible.



The exemption that applies in relation to your request and that requires the extra time in order to consider the public interest is: section 43 (2) – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

\*Please note, with relation to your original request, apparently the main term used is “Pitch surround” rather than carpeting so the searches were run using that terminology, on both the E20 and LLDC email domains and using the date range provided so that the search results were not too broad.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Coordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00

**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

Could you please provide the following:

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Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]@gmail.com"  
**Subject:** FOI Request 18-011  
**Date:** 19 June 2018 10:38:00

---

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please accept my apologies once again but our response will not be ready to release today.

I can confirm that the work is progressing but we are still considering the public interest test in relation to some of the redactions under the s.43 exemption.

While we have the final responsibility on the response, the views of West Ham need to be taken into consideration which, in this instance, means we need additional time to fully assess the public interest.

I will extend the due date by 20 working days (17 July) and will do everything I can to get the response to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Co-ordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 14:37  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 18-011

Thank you for the confirmation; and for the common sense approach to the terminology in your search.

I look forward to hearing from you further

Yours

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Mar 21, 2018 at 1:16 PM, foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding to this request. As you know, the Freedom of Information Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly and no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case.

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\*Please note, with relation to your original request, apparently the main term used is “Pitch surround” rather than carpeting so the searches were run using that terminology, on both the E20 and LLDC email domains and using the date range provided so that the search results were not too broad.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Coordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00

**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

Could you please provide the following:

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)

Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [foi](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround  
**Date:** 21 June 2018 09:44:53

---

Yes that's fine

---

**From:** foi [mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 09:43  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi [REDACTED]

I'll do that in future, no problem. For the below, would a response by Monday 25 be possible?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 09:19  
**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Hello [REDACTED]

Sorry not to have come back to you yet. I am particularly busy at the moment I'm afraid and so with any requests for advice, it would really help me if you could let me know when you need the advice, so that I can prioritise.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** foi [mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 09:11  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please can you let me know when you will be able to advise on the below?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 June 2018 16:38  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

Many thanks

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 14 June 2018 16:04  
**To:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@tfl.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi [Redacted]

We have received the below FOI:

*"This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>*

*refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.*

*Could you please provide the following:*

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting*
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g. meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)*

*Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17."*

By coloured carpeting the requestor means the pitch surround.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road

London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] [londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)  
Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround  
**Date:** 21 June 2018 13:37:00

---

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 13:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] [londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)

Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

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\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [Mark Robinson](#)  
**To:** [foi](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround  
**Date:** 10 July 2018 10:17:13

---

Hello – I've chased him [REDACTED]

I'll chase again.

Mark

---

**From:** foi  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:05  
**To:** Mark Robinson <[MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: 18-011 Pitch surround

Good morning Mark,

Please can you let me know if you think Ben will be able to send his email of understanding? It has a big impact on how we treat this particular email chain in the response.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** foi  
**Sent:** 03 July 2018 10:10  
**To:** Mark Robinson <[MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Good morning Mark,

I've received [REDACTED] WHU response on the email bundle and I'm going to send it over to [REDACTED] at TFL legal to review.

Please can you ask Ben to send me his confirmation email by the end of this week?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2018 09:45  
**To:** Mark Robinson <[MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi Mark,

Please see [REDACTED] (TFL legal) advice in relation to the document bundle for this request (attached for reference), specifically in relation to the email sent FYI from [REDACTED] to Ben F containing the email correspondence chain between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Do you know if it is possible to contact Ben and get his thoughts, as per [REDACTED] advice?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 13:32  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Regards  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Public and Regulatory Law | Legal  
**Transport for London** | 2nd Floor, Petty France | 55 Broadway, London | SW1H 0BD  
[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk | Tel: [REDACTED] (ext. [REDACTED]) | Fax: [REDACTED] (ext. [REDACTED])

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---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 14 June 2018 16:38  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 June 2018 16:04  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 18-011 Pitch surround

Hi [REDACTED]

We have received the below FOI:

*"This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>*

*refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.*

*Could you please provide the following:*

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*Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17."*

By coloured carpeting the requestor means the pitch surround.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] [londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)

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\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [Mark Robinson](#)  
**To:** [foi](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Thank you  
**Date:** 10 July 2018 10:49:28

---

Will do

---

**From:** foi  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:49  
**To:** Mark Robinson <MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Thank you

That's great.

Many thanks Mark, and please thank Ben when you next speak to him.

██████████

---

**From:** Mark Robinson  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:44  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you

Here you go

---

**From:** Ben Fletcher [<mailto:BFletcher@██████████>]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:39  
**To:** Mark Robinson <[MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Thank you

Dear Mark,

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment, and apologies for the delay in responding.

I am confident that there was a clear expectation of confidentiality in this exchange, which I would argue could be applied to most of my correspondence with West Ham's communication Director and senior team.

We had a very clear understanding that, in order to discharge our respective responsibilities, we would exchange information between us so that we were mutually informed of difficult issues and could help shape media and wider handling strategies that minimised disruption, damage and negative comment. To facilitate this it was sometimes necessary to make the other party aware of confidential or sensitive matters. This is one such instance.

Whilst there is no explicit reference to this in the chain of correspondence, this is due to the regular verbal communication that occurred in parallel and the long standing mutual expectations that had arisen during our working relationship.

I hope that this helps clarify the situation, but please let me know if any more detail is required.

Ben

**Ben Fletcher**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround - IN CONFIDENCE  
**Date:** 16 July 2018 17:31:20

---

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Regards

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:16  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround - IN CONFIDENCE

[REDACTED]

Many thanks for the below. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

If possible, please could I have a response by Thursday?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 06 July 2018 11:36  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround - IN CONFIDENCE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Public and Regulatory Law | Legal

**Transport for London** | 2nd Floor, Petty France | 55 Broadway, London | SW1H 0BD

[Redacted] [@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[Redacted]@tfl.gov.uk) | Tel: [Redacted] (ext. [Redacted]) | Fax: [Redacted] (ext. [Redacted])

Legal 500 2018 in-house transport team of the year

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**From:** [Redacted] [[mailto:\[Redacted\]@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[Redacted]@londonlegacy.co.uk)]

**Sent:** 03 July 2018 10:22

**To:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** FW: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround - IN CONFIDENCE

Good morning [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

If possible, please can you respond by Monday 9 July?

Many thanks

[Redacted]

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**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@westhamunited.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 02 July 2018 19:03  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Dear [REDACTED]

With reference to your email of 19 June which you have sought our response on by today's date in this matter, you have not provided a copy of the applicant's request or identified the applicant to us. Moreover, the deadline you have imposed allows us very little time within which to evaluate the proposed disclosure and take advice. At the very least, please provide us with the date of the request.

Our view is that the documents attached to your email qualify for exemption under the FOIA. As such, this information should not be released into the public domain. Your email refers to section 43 of the Act. In addition, we have considered sections 31, 41 and 42. We expect that you will also have given consideration to the exemptions under these sections.

The emails in question record discussions which are expressly stated to be Without Prejudice. As such these discussions record a genuine attempt to settle an existing dispute and cannot be put before the court as evidence of admissions against the interest of the party which made them. The disclosure of the same would prejudice both parties to such dispute in that the privileged nature of this correspondence might be impaired or even lost. For the avoidance of doubt, we do not waive any privilege or other rights in such Without Prejudice correspondence.

The Without Prejudice Rule, which enables parties to a dispute to communicate freely for the purposes of facilitating a settlement, without being at risk of having those communications produced and disclosed and used against them, thus potentially undermining their case in the event that a settlement is not reached. There is a recognised public policy justification for this rule: that parties should be encouraged as far as possible to settle their disputes and to speak freely and confidentially in order to do so.

There is prejudice in disclosing these emails because such disclosure will undermine the purpose of Without Prejudice conversations as between the parties to various disputes which are in existence. The law recognises the value and purpose of Without Prejudice dialogue as an important encouragement to settling disputes. The benefit of Without Prejudice dialogue is lost if the parties consider that their conversation may be disclosed into the public domain.

We expect that you will not make disclosure without notifying us in advance and allowing us a reasonable opportunity to address you further in this regard.

Best as ever

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 June 2018 09:41  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@westhamunited.co.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please can you let me have any comments from West Ham on this document bundle by Monday 2 July at the latest?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 June 2018 10:51  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@westhamunited.co.uk>  
**Subject:** LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Good morning,

The London Legacy Development Corporation has received the below Freedom of Information requests in relation to the Stadium pitch surround:

*“Could you please provide the following:*

- 1) From 20/10/2016 to 31 December 2017, all correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting / pitch surround*
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g. meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)”*

The FOIA requires us to disclose information in response to a request unless an applicable exemption applies.

I have attached the emails that have been identified as relevant. Please can you review the attached emails and identify if there is any information that you do not want released into the public domain.

If there is any additional information you would like withheld, please provide as detailed an explanation as possible on why you would not want the information in the public domain . This would then need to be assessed against applicable FOIA exceptions.

The most common exemption considered is commercial interests (section 43). Where you are considering the use of an exemption, for instance s.43 – commercial interests, then you need to be able to demonstrate that releasing the information will prejudice your commercial interests. The more explicit you can be for the harm caused if the information were to be released, then the stronger the defence will be, but obviously without revealing the commercial interests that you are trying to protect. As an example, commercial interests includes where releasing information could harm ongoing negotiations, discussions, etc.

The LLDC will redact any names, phone numbers and other personal information for the third party unless given consent to release them.

Please let me have your comments by Monday, 25 June.

Please note that once the response has been sent, any redactions made can be challenged by the requestor – first through an internal review where an independent panel from LLDC would review the redactions made, and again consult you during the process. After that stage, if the requestor is still not happy, then they can complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) and one of their caseworkers could review the response. If they don’t think our redactions are justified, they can force us to release information previously redacted (there is an appeal process), that is why it is so important for there to be strong justifications in place from the beginning where information is withheld under an FOIA exemption, especially one that is subject to the public interest.

If you have any questions please email me or ring me on the number below, or else, this is a link to the ICO’s

FOIA guidance: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/>

Kind regards



**FOI/EIR Coordinator**

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

Email: [foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)

Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

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London Legacy Development Corporation, Level 10, 1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road, London, E20 1EJ.

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**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]@gmail.com"  
**Subject:** FOI Request 18-011  
**Date:** 17 July 2018 11:12:00

---

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please accept my apologies once again for the delay but our response will not be ready to release today.

I can confirm that the work is progressing but, while we have the final responsibility on the response, the views of West Ham need to be taken into consideration which, in this instance, means we need additional time to consider the exemptions they have suggested and assess them against the public interest and this is taking additional time.

I will extend the due date by 20 working days (14 August) and will do everything I possibly can to get the response to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FOI/EIR Co-ordinator

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2018 14:37  
**To:** foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 18-011

Thank you for the confirmation; and for the common sense approach to the terminology in your search.

I look forward to hearing from you further

Yours

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Mar 21, 2018 at 1:16 PM, foi <[foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding to this request. As you know, the Freedom of Information Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly and no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case.

We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider the public interest test, however, in this case we have not yet reached a

decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

I have extended the due date by an additional 20 working days to 20 April 2018. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies, I will keep you informed, however, I will do everything I can to respond as soon as possible.

The exemption that applies in relation to your request and that requires the extra time in order to consider the public interest is: section 43 (2) – Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

\*Please note, with relation to your original request, apparently the main term used is “Pitch surround” rather than carpeting so the searches were run using that terminology, on both the E20 and LLDC email domains and using the date range provided so that the search results were not too broad.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

FOI/EIR Coordinator

---

**From:** [Redacted] [mailto:[Redacted]@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 21 February 2018 14:00

**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** FOI Request

Hello,

This article <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/football/london-stadium-owners-block-west-ham-s-plan-to-change-colour-around-the-pitch-to-help-players-see-a3664061.html>

refers to discussions between E20 and West Ham United regarding changing the colour of the surround, including a quoted cost of £200k.

Could you please provide the following:

- 1) All correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)

Should question 1 be too wide ranging I am happy to limit my request to correspondence between 20/10/16 to 31/12/17.

Thank you

[Redacted]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [foi](#)  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC FOI 18-011 pitch surround  
**Date:** 17 July 2018 12:44:36

---

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** foi [mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:52  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** LLDC FOI 18-011 pitch surround

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see the below email from Ben in relation to emails provided with the expectation of confidence.

[REDACTED]

Please let me know by Thursday 12 July if possible.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Mark Robinson  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:44  
**To:** foi <foi@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you

Here you go

---

**From:** Ben Fletcher [mailto:BFletcher@[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2018 10:39  
**To:** Mark Robinson <MarkRobinson@londonlegacy.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Thank you

Dear Mark,

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment, and apologies for the delay in responding.

I am confident that there was a clear expectation of confidentiality in this exchange, which I would argue could be applied to most of my correspondence with West Ham's communication Director and senior team.

We had a very clear understanding that, in order to discharge our respective responsibilities, we would exchange information between us so that we were mutually informed of difficult issues and could help shape media and wider handling strategies that minimised disruption, damage and negative comment. To facilitate this it was sometimes necessary to make the other party aware of confidential or sensitive matters. This is one such instance.

Whilst there is no explicit reference to this in the chain of correspondence, this is due to the regular verbal communication that occurred in parallel and the long standing mutual expectations that had arisen during our working relationship.

I hope that this helps clarify the situation, but please let me know if any more detail is required.

Ben

Ben Fletcher

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

This communication and the information it contains is intended for the addressee only. It may be confidential, legally privileged and protected by law. Unauthorised use, copying or disclosure of any of it may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please contact me immediately by email or telephone and then delete the e-mail and its attachments from your system. This email and any attachments have been scanned for viruses by Symantec and on leaving the London Legacy Development Corporation they were virus free. No liability will be incurred for direct, special or indirect or consequential damages arising from alteration of the contents of this message by a third party or as a result of any virus contained within it or attached to it. The London Legacy Development Corporation may monitor traffic data. For enquiries please call 020 3288 1800. London Legacy Development Corporation, Level 10, 1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road, London, E20 1EJ.

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**From:** [foi](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 18-011 pitch surround  
**Date:** 25 July 2018 09:51:00

---

Good morning [REDACTED]

In relation to this request and the expert determination, have you been able to find out if the results are public or private?

Also, have you had a chance to review the emails and identify any information that should not be released?

Please can you give me an update by cob Friday?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
London  
E20 1EJ

DDI: 020 3288 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] [londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk)

Website: [www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk](http://www.QueenElizabethOlympicPark.co.uk)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround  
**Date:** 25 July 2018 17:31:00

---

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Please accept my apologies in the delay in responding to your email below.

In relation to your email to Ben dated 14 September 2017 13:03:57, this will be withheld under section 41 as we believe we have a strong case defending that the email was sent with the clear understanding it was to be treated in confidence.

With regard to the other exemptions in relation to the information (s.31, s.41, s.42 and s.43), please can you give me the specific areas within the email bundle where the specific exemptions that you consider possible apply? This will help us build the best defence possible for the use of the specific exemptions if they are challenged by the requestor, for additional applications of s.41 where possible but especially in relation to the use of the s.31 and s.42 exemptions.

The more specific the information that you can give me on the application of the exemptions, then the better our chance of building strong public interest reasons to justify withholding the information.

I believe we could consider s.31 under an impact on the administration of justice where the correspondence dealt with information confidential to the parties in the context of the court proceedings. So without prejudice correspondence in which parties were negotiating to try and settle a dispute might conceivably fall within the exemption, but there would still be the public interest test to consider and blanket applications of the exemption will be harder to justify than focused specific redactions.

My concern with the application of the s.42 legal professional privilege exemption is that, in my understanding, it can only be applied to requests for advice from a solicitor or a solicitor providing legal advice. Where neither party in an email correspondence is a solicitor then we can't rely on the legal privilege exemption, that is why the commercial interests exemption is often considered instead.

Please can you let me have your response for the specific exemptions by the end of next week, Friday 3 August?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@westhamunited.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 02 July 2018 19:03  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Dear Rachel,

With reference to your email of 19 June which you have sought our response on by today's date in this matter, you have not provided a copy of the applicant's request or identified the applicant to us. Moreover, the deadline you have imposed allows us very little time within which to evaluate the proposed disclosure and take advice. At the very least, please provide us with the date of the request.

Our view is that the documents attached to your email qualify for exemption under the FOIA. As such, this information should not be released into the public domain. Your email refers to section 43 of the Act. In addition, we have considered sections 31, 41 and 42. We expect that you will also have given consideration to the exemptions under these sections.

The emails in question record discussions which are expressly stated to be Without Prejudice. As such these discussions record a genuine attempt to settle an existing dispute and cannot be put before the court as evidence of admissions against the interest of the party which made them. The disclosure of the same would prejudice both parties to such dispute in that the privileged nature of this correspondence might be impaired or even lost. For the avoidance of doubt, we do not waive any privilege or other rights in such Without Prejudice correspondence.

The Without Prejudice Rule, which enables parties to a dispute to communicate freely for the purposes of facilitating a settlement, without being at risk of having those communications produced and disclosed and used against them, thus potentially undermining their case in the event that a settlement is not reached. There is a recognised public policy justification for this rule: that parties should be encouraged as far as possible to settle their disputes and to speak freely and confidentially in order to do so.

There is prejudice in disclosing these emails because such disclosure will undermine the purpose of Without Prejudice conversations as between the parties to various disputes which are in existence. The law recognises the value and purpose of Without Prejudice dialogue as an important encouragement to settling disputes. The benefit of Without Prejudice dialogue is lost if the parties consider that their conversation may be disclosed into the public domain.

We expect that you will not make disclosure without notifying us in advance and allowing us a reasonable opportunity to address you further in this regard.

Best as ever

■

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**From:** ■ <■@londonlegacy.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 June 2018 09:41  
**To:** ■ <■@westhamunited.co.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Good morning ■

Please can you let me have any comments from West Ham on this document bundle by Monday 2 July at the latest?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 June 2018 10:51  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@westhamunited.co.uk>  
**Subject:** LLDC notification of FOI relating to Stadium pitch surround

Good morning,

The London Legacy Development Corporation has received the below Freedom of Information requests in relation to the Stadium pitch surround:

*“Could you please provide the following:*

- 1) From 20/10/2016 to 31 December 2017, all correspondence between E20/LLDC and WHUFC that relates to the attempt to install different coloured carpeting / pitch surround*
- 2) Copies of any documentation that outlines how a proposed cost of £200k was reached (e.g. meeting minutes, quotes from suppliers, comparable examples used)”*

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I have attached the emails that have been identified as relevant. Please can you review the attached emails and identify if there is any information that you do not want released into the public domain.

If there is any additional information you would like withheld, please provide as detailed an explanation as possible on why you would not want the information in the public domain . This would then need to be assessed against applicable FOIA exceptions.

The most common exemption considered is commercial interests (section 43). Where you are considering the use of an exemption, for instance s.43 – commercial interests, then you need to be able to demonstrate that releasing the information will prejudice your commercial interests. The more explicit you can be for the harm caused if the information were to be released, then the stronger the defence will be, but obviously without revealing the commercial interests that you are trying to protect. As an example, commercial interests includes where releasing information could harm ongoing negotiations, discussions, etc.

The LLDC will redact any names, phone numbers and other personal information for the third party unless given consent to release them.

Please let me have your comments by Monday, 25 June.

Please note that once the response has been sent, any redactions made can be challenged by the requestor – first through an internal review where an independent panel from LLDC would review the redactions made, and again consult you during the process. After that stage, if the requestor is still not happy, then they can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and one of their caseworkers could review the response. If they don't think our redactions are justified, they can force us to release information previously redacted (there is an appeal process), that is why it is so important for there to be strong justifications in place from the beginning where information is withheld under an FOIA exemption, especially one that is subject to the public interest.

If you have any questions please email me or ring me on the number below, or else, this is a link to the ICO's FOIA guidance: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/>

Kind regards



**FOI/EIR Coordinator**

London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 10  
1 Stratford Place, Montfichet Road  
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Email: [foi@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto:foi@londonlegacy.co.uk)

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