

Level 10 1 Stratford Place Montfichet Road London E20 1EJ

07 May 2019

## **INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE 19-017**



Thank you for your information request, received on 5 April 2019. You asked the London Legacy Development Corporation (Legacy Corporation) to provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

"Subsequent to a vague and finally unsatisfactory (last email to your planning department unanswered, for example), I'd like the following:

- 1. Precise number of consultation leaflets concerning the development and a) where they are to be delivered b) where available c) supply a draft copy with the answer to this FOI.
- 2. Precise dates, locations and times for 'consultations' and the status (informal, official) of these. Whether and where the results will be minuted and publicly displayed with the raw unredacted input, or not?
- 3. Since this process involves Newham, City Hall and your organisation, a precise timetable of the significant events, dates and actors in the planning application process. Preferably simply a spreadsheet format, for example.
- 4. Clear explanation of why any commentary must be given via email and uploaded manually onto the application website, meaning that the data collection process lacks integrity, data and whole submissions may be lost or modified."

In relation to Q3, a "significant event" was clarified to mean: Any formal meetings where the project is discussed in cabinet (Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest) or more widely and (more obviously) any meetings that will result in decisions by any of the actors. The "planning application process" was clarified to mean: The stages of the formal planning process.

I can confirm that the Legacy Corporation holds information which falls within the scope of your request. The information relevant to your request is below and our response follows your order:

Q1. Precise number of consultation leaflets concerning the development and a) where they are to be delivered b) where available c) supply a draft copy with the answer to this FOI.

The local planning authority has not elected to prepare leaflets but issued consultation letters. Letters are typically sent to local residents and neighbouring properties with details setting out how they can comment, where they can go for further information and the consultation deadline. Approximately 7,700 letters were issued to neighbours on 26 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. Several public notices were also posted in and around the site and adjoining areas on 23 April 2019.

The map in **Annex A** shows where the letters and site notices have been distributed.

**Annex B** is a copy of the consultation letter issued.

Q2. Precise dates, locations and times for 'consultations' and the status (informal, official) of these. Whether and where the results will be minuted and publicly displayed with the raw unredacted input, or not?

The local planning authority is required by law to undertake a period of public consultation, prior to deciding a planning application. The processes and procedures followed by LLDC are based on government guidance and are in accordance with the law. The overall approach can be reviewed on our website, via the following pages:

- View and Commenting on Planning Applications <u>https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/view-and-comment-on-applications</u>
- Planning Policy and Decisions Team Privacy Notice -<u>https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/planning-policy-and-decisions-team-privacy-notice</u>

In this instance, comments are invited (which can be logged now) until Friday 28 June 2019. The period of consultation being allowed for is much longer than the 30 days normally required by law for this type of planning application.

The local planning authority has publicised the application on its website (<a href="https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/madison-square-garden-planning-application">https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/madison-square-garden-planning-application</a>) and is raising awareness of the scheme via social media. Press notices are also scheduled to also be published in the Newham Recorder, East London Life, Waltham Forest Guardian and Hackney Today. The local planning authority is also taking out an advert in the Newham Magazine which has a circulation of 118,000. This publication is delivered to homes, public spaces and buildings in Newham.

The local planning authority will be hosting a public consultation event which is scheduled for 16:00 – 20:30 on Wednesday 5 June 2019 at St Pauls and St James, 65 Maryland Rd, London E15 1JL. Details of the event are being included in letters, site notices and within the advert proposed for the May Edition of the Newham Magazine.

A copy of the advert is attached as **Annex C**.

A separate session is also programmed with Stratford Original who represent approximately 300 local businesses in Stratford. This is scheduled to take place on 4 June 2019.

These events are still being planned, however, feedback from these sessions will be important considerations, as will any written comments received during the consultation

period from both groups and individuals. All feedback will be considered important, where it is a relevant planning consideration, and will be reported to the planning committee.

Q3. Since this process involves Newham, City Hall and your organisation, a precise timetable of the significant events, dates and actors in the planning application process. Preferably simply a spreadsheet format, for example. A "significant event" was clarified to mean: Any formal meetings where the project is discussed in cabinet (Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest) or more widely and (more obviously) any meetings that will result in decisions by any of the actors. The "planning application process" was clarified to mean: The stages of the formal planning process.

LLDC has not had any formal meetings where decisions have been made about this proposal with either the LB Newham, LB Waltham Forest, LB Tower Hamlets or City Hall during the formal planning process. It is still relatively early in the lifecycle of this scheme which is under public consultation.

Q4. Clear explanation of why any commentary must be given via email and uploaded manually onto the application website, meaning that the data collection process lacks integrity, data and whole submissions may be lost or modified

Please be advised that the statement 'any commentary must be given via email' is factually incorrect. Any commentary must be given in writing (either by email or post) to ensure the accuracy of the comment and avoid any transcription or other communication errors.

The comments received are uploaded manually so that personal information can be redacted from the comments before they are published online. Copies of all the comments received, via email or post, are saved to pdf format to allow for the redaction of the personal details only. These are then uploaded. The comments themselves are not modified in any way. The original comments are unaltered as they can be referenced in person in the hardcopy planning application file.

Further details on our approach to submitting comments is available on our website via the following pages:

- View and Commenting on Planning Applications -<u>https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/view-and-comment-on-applications</u>
- Planning Policy and Decisions Team Privacy Notice -<u>https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/planning-authority/planning-policy-and-decisions-team-privacy-notice</u>

Ultimately, the process enables us to fulfil our data protection obligations.

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

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

Email: FOI@londonlegacy.co.uk

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