

[REDACTED]

6 April 2020

INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE 19-071

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request, received on 8 November 2019. You asked the London Legacy Development Corporation (Legacy Corporation) to provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

"As noted in the E20 Board meeting minutes for the meeting held 27th June 2017:

"The Board requested that the radical seating review report to be addressed to E20 and its members"

Please can I be provided with a copy of the radical seating review report."

I can confirm that the Legacy Corporation holds information relevant to your request. Please find the information requested attached in the following annexes:

Annex A: London Stadium Relocatable Seating Support System – Report of Feasibility

Annex B: London Stadium Relocatable Seating – Feasibility Study Executive Summary

Please be advised that information within these documents has been redacted under FOIA section 40 and section 43. The relevant exemption is identified within the redaction.

Section 40(2) –personal information

*(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if –
(a) it constitutes personal data which does not fall within subsection (1), and
(b) the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.*

It is the standard practice of the Legacy Corporation to redact personal information for those members of staff under Head of Service level, and for non-Legacy Corporation personnel unless consent to release the information has been received.

The section 40 exemption is absolute and is not subject to the public interest test. In this instance, the relevant condition that applies is section 40(2) whereby the information is defined as personal data within s.3(2) of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Section 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).

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.

Prejudice to commercial interests

The Legacy Corporation has assessed the impact of releasing the information redacted under the exemption s.43 – commercial interests in order to decide whether disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice their commercial interests or those of any third party(ies). They have concluded that prejudice to commercial interests would be caused by disclosure so that the exemption is engaged.

The withheld information relates to future tenders and negotiations and future business strategies. Releasing the information currently redacted within this document under the commercial interest exemption would harm the integrity of the future procurement and negotiation processes as well as harm the future strategies of the Legacy Corporation.

Public Interest Test

There is, of course, a public interest in promoting transparency of public authorities' decisions and accountability, however, the disclosure of the information within **Annex A and B** identified as commercially sensitive would prejudice the commercial interests of the Legacy Corporation because it will reveal details which would impact on the current and future procurement exercises and negotiations, and business strategies and this in turn would impact on the Legacy Corporation's ability to get best value for the public purse.

It is the view of the Legacy Corporation that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

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