



22 July 2022

INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE 22-021

Thank you for your information request, received on 1 July 2022. You asked the London Legacy Development Corporation (Legacy Corporation) to provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

“I would like to know what happened to the Water Polo Arena and its constituent parts after it was dismantled in August 2013.”

The Legacy Corporation may hold information relevant to this request however, searches run across the fileservers indicate that the construction and dismantling of the Water Polo Arena were contracted by Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) in separate contracts to multiple contractors, each dealing with a different aspect of the arena, for example, structure, seating, pools, etc. See this article for more detail: [AJ Buildings Library](#). Also, the Olympic Park Legacy Corporation (OPLC) Transformation Outline Business Case says that water polo removal was part of Baseline Transformation Works: – Removal and disposal of temporary venues and it was included in the Transformation business case and ODA project business case, as part of a managed package which were already in contract but would be managed by the existing ODA Tier 1 contractors.

While the Legacy Corporation does hold copies of some of the ODA contracts, the majority of information transferred to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) when the ODA closed. Preliminary internal consultation suggests that we probably do not hold information specifically about the post-Olympic dismantling and re-distribution of the component parts of this arena, however, if we did hold recorded information it would be likely to be held under the following search terms: Water Polo, ODA, Sports England or Government Olympic Executive (as major funders and co-ordinating government department). Searches were conducted on the Legacy Corporation fileservers for any reference to these terms including variations and abbreviations, where possible.

The Legacy Corporation search results contained 12,770 items, over 26.4GB in size. The time estimate for the review of the search results is based on the average time taken to locate, open and undertake a high-level review of one document from the search results. While the review time will vary dependent on the complexity of each document, it is a reasonable assessment that the average review time would be one minute per document. This is then used to calculate the time taken to review all the search results. Given the size of the search results, the review exercise has been estimated to take over 200 hours. After the initial preliminary review, further detailed review would need to be undertaken to identify if the information is specifically relevant to the request.

Due to the size of the search results, we are refusing to proceed further with this request as the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit as defined by FOIA section 12.

Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

(1) *Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.*

The Legacy Corporation has estimated that the resources that would be required to identify, locate, retrieve and extract this information would far exceed the appropriate limit.

The appropriate limit is £450, calculated as 18 hours at the rate of £25 per hour, however, only the time taken to;

- a. establishing if the information is held;
- b. locating the information;
- c. retrieving the information; and
- d. extracting the information;

can be taken into consideration when calculating the estimated costs of answering the request.

Please note: the search results figure only includes those records with the specific terms in the file path.

Also, please note that in order to fully answer the request, separate searches of the offsite archive records and the email system would also be required. Given the size of the files server results, these searches were not undertaken.

Given the initial preliminary review time estimate of 200 hours, or over 26 working days (based on 7 ½ hour working day), this figure does not include the time that would be required to undertake a detailed review of the relevancy of the documents.

It also does not include the time taken to review the relevant documents in order to identify and consider the public interest in regard to any redactions or any third-party consultations as these factors are not considered as part of the calculations of the cost when refusing a request under FOIA section 12.

The Legacy Corporation cannot justify the cost or the use of resources that would be required to answer your request, consequently, the Legacy Corporation are not obliged, under Section 12 of the FOIA, to respond to your request and we will not be processing your request further.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. We will then be able to ascertain whether we would be able to respond within the appropriate limit. Any reformulated request will be treated as a new information request.

It may also be possible that the relevant ODA information was transferred to DCMS. In addition, the following external article was identified which may be of interest:

- [The construction index/london-2012-water-tanks-find-new-role-in-kenyan-village](#)

- [Wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_Polo_Arena](https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_Polo_Arena).

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

Deputy Chief Executive
London Legacy Development Corporation
Level 9
5 Endeavour Square
Stratford
E20 1JN

Email: FOI@londonlegacy.co.uk

Please note: requests for internal reviews received more than forty working days 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