



24 February 2025

**INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE 25-006**

Thank you for your information request, received on 29 January 2025. You asked the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) to provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

*“On 27th January 2025 the Times reported that E20 have paid £8.4m to install solar panels at the London Stadium and routine maintenance*

[West Ham win £3.6m legal battle with London Stadium landlords](#)

*Please confirm the total cost of the installation of the solar panels broken down by installation and ongoing maintenance costs*

*When will the solar panels be in operation and what savings are estimated per year in electricity bills.*

*What is the latest cost of electricity for the London Stadium in the last twelve months?”*

I can confirm that the LLDC 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: Please confirm the total cost of the installation of the solar panels broken down by installation and ongoing maintenance costs

The project has a total capital cost of up to £4.4m, which includes the following:

- Solar Panel Design, Manufacture & Install
- Connectivity Works
- Weather Station and Roof Hatch for maintenance
- Delivery Support (including Project Supervision, UK Power Network approvals, Building Control Fees)
- Feasibility, Procurement and Tendering Costs
- Safety Detection Systems
- Contingency

There will be an ongoing maintenance cost of £36,647 per annum to clean, inspect and repair any panels needing attention.

Please note, the £8.4m figure included in your request, and which you associate with the £8.3m mentioned in The Times article, is incorrectly referenced as the cost of installing the solar panels. It is not clear where this figure is from.

Q2. When will the solar panels be in operation and what savings are estimated per year in electricity bills.

The panels are expected to be in operation by July 2025.

It is anticipated that the installation will save around 10% per annum in the cost of electricity for the Stadium, based on generating 850,000 kWh of renewable energy net of the annual maintenance costs. The exact annual savings will depend on the prevailing electricity charges.

Q3. What is the latest cost of electricity for the London Stadium in the last twelve months?

The estimated utilities cost for the current financial year is £3.7m. We are currently out for tender for a new electricity provider and therefore the electricity cost is being withheld under FOIA section 43(2) – commercial interest.

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 LLDC and LS185 have assessed the impact of releasing the information in relation to the current electricity costs 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 there is a tender exercise underway releasing any information in relation to this procurement at this time would be likely to prejudice LLDC & LS185's commercial interests so the exemption is engaged.

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 requested and

identified as commercially sensitive would be likely to prejudice commercial interests of LS185 and the LLDC as it will reveal details which would be likely impact on the procurement and this would impact on LS185's ability to get best value for the public purse.

It is the view of the LLDC and LS185 that, at this time, the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

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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:

Chief Operating Officer  
London Legacy Development Corporation  
Level 9  
5 Endeavour Square  
Stratford  
E20 1JN

Email: [FOI@londonlegacy.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

FOI / EIR Co-ordinator  
London Legacy Development Corporation