

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA120417-9066

12 May 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 11 April 2017. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested the following information:

1. *The formal minutes of any meeting held by the Deputy Mayor for Housing that references new construction methods.*
2. *The formal minutes of meetings between the GLA and manufacturers of new construction methods that the GLA has been engaging with.*

(From January 1st 2016 to date).

The formal minutes held by the GLA which relate to your request were taken for the following meetings:

- YMCASWL – 20 June 2016
- YMCASWL – 31 January 2017

Please find attached. The subject of modular housing was also briefly mentioned within the meetings notes of a Quarterly area meeting with LB Lewisham, as follows:

Place Ladywell (pop-up) – MW noted the scheme is on track and will be ready for letting in March 2016

Some of the information within scope of your request is being withheld as it falls under section 43 (2) of the Act. Section 43(2) of the Act provides that information can be withheld from release if its release would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person.

Section 43 (2) is a qualified exemption. The Act provides that a public authority must weigh the public interest in maintaining the exemption against the public interest in disclosure. It is

considered that disclosure would provide transparency of discussions relating to innovative ways of delivering affordable housing in London and allow for informed public participation in the Mayor's work to tackle the housing crisis.

However, release of some of the information contained within the minutes of the meeting would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of associated third parties because some of the content includes commentary on third party performance and information linked to a merger which will be subject to detailed negotiations on a number of complex points, all of which could be compromised by making this public. On that basis we conclude that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure at this time.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>