

## REQUEST

I am an Islington resident interested in the Holloway Prison site development project. I have been following the process of the development and have been attending consultations with the developer. I am interested in finding out whether my comments have been taken into account. To this end, would you please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

- Please provide any written correspondence between the Mayor's Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC) and Peabody Housing Association, including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.
- Please provide any written correspondence between MOPAC and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.
- Please provide any written correspondence between MOPAC and the Mayor's office, including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.
- Please provide any existing plans (including draft plans) for the design, administration and staffing for this 'women's building' or 'women's center', as well as plans for services which might be included in the building.

## RESPONSE

Regarding your FOI requests, please see responses below:

1. Please provide any written correspondence between the Mayor's Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC) and Peabody Housing Association, including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.
2. Please provide any written correspondence between MOPAC and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.
3. Please provide any written correspondence between MOPAC and the Mayor's office, including between individuals employed by these bodies, which concerns the 'women's building', or 'women's center' to be built on the Holloway Prison site.

Regarding your requests 1-3 (set out above), these requests are being refused under section 12 of the FOIA because compliance would exceed the appropriate cost limit.

In order to comply with these requests, MOPAC staff would have to carry out extensive searching of several email in boxes, filing and correspondence systems, and other applications, going back over five years. In addition, MOPAC emails are automatically archived after a certain time period, and retrieving these would take considerable amounts of time.

Having carefully considered your requests and consulted with colleagues, I estimate that it will take more than 18 hours of staff time to carry out the following:

- finding the requested information, or records containing the information
- retrieving the information or records; and
- extracting the requested information from records.

If you would like to refine your requests to a much more limited time period (e.g. three months) and specify a particular subject, then it is possible that MOPAC may be able to comply with your request.

4. Please provide any existing plans (including draft plans) for the design, administration and staffing for this 'women's building' or 'women's center', as well as plans for services which might be included in the building.

The information requested is due to be published by Islington Borough Council and therefore is exempt from disclosure under section 22 of the FOIA - information intended for future publication. This is a qualified exemption, therefore the public interest test is required.

#### Public Interest Test

##### Factors favouring disclosure

To disclose the requested information would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent.

##### Factors favouring non-disclosure

Islington Borough Council is intending to publish the plans for the Holloway Prison site in due course and is currently carrying out ongoing work to achieve this. Once this work has been collated, checked, verified and confirmed as per normal business process, it will be published. To disclose this information before publication would be unhelpful and has the potential to leave the information open to misinterpretation. It would not be in the public interest to disrupt the ongoing process set out above and would be a waste of public funds.

#### Balance Test

There are factors favouring both disclosure and non-disclosure. The main factor favouring disclosure is openness and accountability; however, the impact of this factor is diminished due to the pre-existing intention of the to publish this information. As such, it is my decision that the public interest at this time lies in favour of non-disclosure for the reasons outlined above.

In addition, you may wish to make your FOI request to Islington Borough, here:

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-governance/freedom-of-information/freedom-of-information-request>

If you are unhappy with the response to your Freedom of Information request, please see the MOPAC website on what the next steps are at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/governance-and-decision-making/freedom-information>