

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Corporate Management
Our ref: MGLA270214-0187

Date: 14 May 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information: Crystal Palace Redevelopment

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 26 February 2014. Further to my extension reply of 25 March, we are now in a position to respond.

You asked for;

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek the following information on the meetings of the GLA working and steering groups on the proposed redevelopment by ZhongRong Group of the publicly owned Crystal Palace Park.

- *Any documentation produced by or presented to the group(s) regarding the GLA's consideration of the business case proposed by ZRG and/or the key principles of the proposal*
- *Any minutes of meetings pertaining to the above*
- *Any documentation produced by or presented to the group(s) regarding the discussions between the GLA and ZRG of an approach to land acquisition*
- *Any minutes of meetings pertaining to the same*

Please find attached some of the information you have requested. Please note that some of the information you requested is exempt from disclosure under s.43 (2) Commercial interests of the Freedom of Information Act. The attached annex sets out our use of the exemptions and the public interest arguments applicable to s.43 of the Act.

If you have any further queries relating to this request then please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the complaints procedure, available at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/gla/governing-organisation/freedom-information>

Exemption
<p>Section 43</p> <p>(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).</p>
How the exemption applies to this information
<p>It has been identified that some of the requested information commercially sensitive (s.43 (2)). And would be likely to affect the ongoing live negotiations between the London Borough of Bromley negotiating and ZRG.</p> <p>The release of this information is therefore likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the London Borough of Bromley and their ability to participate competitively in a commercial activity.</p>
Public interest test
<p>Public interest in favour of disclosure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of information relating to the Crystal Palace redevelopment is in keeping with the Government's transparency agenda and promotes accountability and greater public participation. <p>Public interest in maintaining the exemption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GLA has confirmed the harmful effects of disclosure of some of the requested information to their commercial standing, with London Borough of Bromley. It is not in the public interest to disclose information which would prejudice the financial position of public authorities in negotiation with the private sector to achieve best value for money in creating high quality public spaces. • Organisations would become reluctant to enter into such agreements with the GLA which in turn would negate the effectiveness of such partnerships and in turn be of detriment to the public purse. • The timing of the request is also of particular significance given that the project is still in an early phase, disclosure may also affect the ability of the LBB to negotiate with third parties yet to be fully realised within the latter stages of the project. • The GLA considers that there is sufficient information within the public domain to aid transparency, accountability and public participation for the purpose of consultation.