

Response to Request for Information

Reference

EIR 081544

Date

Himley Crescent

Request:

I am keen for you to disclose all information to me in relation to the marketing of 14 Himley Crescent in particular to any negotiations relating to the sale process

Response:

Our response is based on the assumption that you are referring to the intended disposal of the property during 2014. Approval was sought under a report to Cabinet Resources Panel dated the 8th April 2014. A For Sale Board was requested to be placed on the Property on the 14th April 14.

Documentation for sale by Informal Tender was developed and never issued, as the site was withdrawn from sale.

In respect of negotiations information, comprising correspondence, emails and other documentation regarding this matter, the Council will not be making disclosure and is of the view that the disclosure of the requested information would be likely to prejudice the confidentiality of commercial and industrial information of both the Council, individuals and organisations taking part in the process and that if it was in the public domain it would affect their ability negotiate a competitive price for the scheme.

On that basis, the Council considers that the exception to disclosure contained at Regulation 12(5) (e) is engaged, where disclosure would, or would be likely to prejudice the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information interests where such confidentiality is provided by law is to protect a legitimate economic interest. In applying this exemption the Council has balanced the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. In the case of the above cited information, the Council considers that the public interest in withholding this information for the reasons cited outweighs the benefits of demonstrating openness and transparency of process at this stage.