

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide me with the following information:

1) Has the preferred developer entered into a contract for the lease of the property? If no, please state the reasons why?

No. The fine detail of the contract is currently being discussed with the preferred developer.

2) Has the preferred developer submitted a planning application? if no, please state the date when it is anticipated an application will be submitted.

No. The purchaser has stated in a Leicester Mercury article dated 3/5/13 that "... he hoped to submit a planning application in the late summer....".

3) Has the preferred developer submitted an application for Listed Building consent? if no, please state the date when it is anticipated an application will be submitted.

No. It is likely any such application will be made at the same time a planning application is made.

4) Please provide a copy of the plans, including any architects sketches that have been submitted to the Leicester City Council by the developer.

Please see sketch attached which was handed out to the media at the launch of the proposals on May 2nd 2013.

5) Owing to the high profile of the property, Will the plans be on public display to residents at a ward meeting? if yes, on what date will they be presented?

It is likely that any plans will be on display at a Ward Community meeting when they are publically available. The actual date of such a meeting is yet to be determined, therefore this part of this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

6) How much financial support is or will be available from the Leicester City Council?

The City Mayor confirmed in a Leicester Mercury article dated 3/5/13 that "the city council would be putting £500,000 into Mr Parmar's scheme."

7) Is the Leicester City Council limited on the amount of funding that can (or has been) provided to the developer? if yes, please state the maximum amount that can (or has been) contributed?

The Council have limited budgets and any funding made available will be balanced with other demands.

8) Will the Leicester City Council be undertaking any restoration works themselves to the property? If yes, what works will be undertaken? and when?
Not under the current proposal to dispose of the property.

9) please provide a breakdown copy of all repair/maintenance works that have been undertaken to the property since 05/02/2013
Please see attached.

10) please provide a list of vandalism that has occurred since 05/02/2013 (please also include the number of incidents that have been reported to the police, and crime numbers)
Please see attached.

11) Why have the windows been boarded up internally on the 26/04/2013 ?
Because of vandalism.

12) how did the Leicester city Council /or the developer, arrive at the figure of £2 million to restore the property? (has reported in the Leicester Mercury on May 02, 2013)
The developer has previous experience of refurbishing similar property and such knowledge has assisted him in determining the likely costs for this project.

13) Does the leasehold of the property also include (or include the use of) the adjacent Stable Block and Walled Gardens?
The proposed long lease will permit the tenant of Braunstone Hall to have use of the Walled Garden and access through the Stable Block yard.

14) How long is it anticipated to take Leicester City Councils planning department to reach a decision once they have received the developers planning application?
It will take either 8 weeks or 13 weeks.

15) How will (or how is it anticipated) the property will be kept secure once works start?
The purchaser rather than the Council will be responsible for security of the property during the refurbishment works.

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

Information Governance Manager
Information and Customer Access
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG

e-mail: info.requests@leicester.gov.uk

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.