

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:

How many potential developers have 'expressed an interest' in renovating Braunstone Hall?

Response:

Two.

How many interested parties have formally submitted their proposed schemes to the Leicester City Council?

One.

What are the proposed schemes for Braunstone Hall?

Hotel use for weddings and conferences.

How many interested parties have evidenced that they require financial support from the Leicester City Council?

One.

How many interested parties have a proven track record of successful completion of other schemes of a similar nature?

One.

Has the Leicester City Council chosen a preferred developer?

LCC is working with the bidder to clarify if they have a viable proposal.

On what date is it anticipated that a preferred developer will be selected?

It is hoped that a report will be brought forward in the summer.

Will the selected bidder be required to provide a safe pedestrian/cycle route to the property?

The provision of such a route was not specified as a requirement in the marketing details of the Hall. However such a requirement may be addressed in any planning permission granted for the Hall.

Owing to the high profile of the property, will a public consultation, be carried out? If yes, what date is it anticipated the consultation will take place on?

The City Mayor has addressed the Ward Committee on the current position and LCC will consider further consultation on the proposal as it develops. The planning application will be subject to the usual consultation process.

Will a presentation of the proposed schemes be on public display? If yes, on what date and Venue is it anticipated it will be held?

This information is not currently known.

For what reasons did the City Mayor decided that the land at Oswin Road/Hinckley Road should NOT be sold to provide funding for the Hall?

The City Mayor considered there was insufficient linkage between the Hall and the site to be sold to justify the sale and by not disposing of the site unnecessarily the ecology on the site remains unaffected.

Was the City Mayor's decision NOT to sell the land at Oswin Road/Hinckley Road minuted at a council meeting? If no, please state why?

The decision was made at a property related briefing with officers.

If required, how much financial support will be available to a selected developer?

The actual figure is currently commercially sensitive and thus cannot be released at this time. This therefore acts as the statutory refusal notice required by section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because of the reasons contained in FOIA S43.2 – the disclosure of this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the authority holding it).

If financial support is given to a selected developer, will there be any limitations on the amount of funding?

Yes.

Will the Leicester City Council be undertaking any restoration works themselves to the property? If yes, what works will be undertaken?

This issue is currently being discussed with the bidder but has not, as yet, been concluded.

What is the estimated cost of restoring the property to a usable shell condition?

This cost is not known.

If Council funding is provided to a selected developer, will the council therefore provide benefit to the local community with some facilities made available for public use?

If the letting proceeded the Council would not operate the Hall. However members of the public would be able to use the facilities at the Hall.

Please state the council's reasons for leasing the property on a 125 year lease instead of selling it.

A long lease could provide more control of the use the Hall is put to in future years and there is potential for it to be returned to the Council in a refurbished condition in the distant future.

Has the Leicester city council received any offers to buy the property since it closed as a junior school in 1996? If yes, please state the dates the offers were made.

Offers were made in April 2008, 28th August 2009 and 1st June 2011.

What is the estimated value of the property in its current condition?

The recent marketing of the Hall has not resulted in any positive financial offers and in fact financial support has been requested.

The legislation allows you to use the information supplied for your own personal use. Please be aware that any commercial or other use, for example publication, sale, or redistribution may be a breach of copyright under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended unless you obtain the copyright holder's prior permission.

Not all the information that is supplied which is covered by copyright will be the Council's copyright, for example it may be the copyright of a government department or another Council. You should seek either the Council's consent or their consent as appropriate. The Council is willing to advise you of any such potential issues on request. In order to make a request to re-use the information please contact the Information Governance Manager using the details below.

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

Information Governance Manager

Information and Support

Leicester City Council

FREEPOST (LE985/33)

New Walk Centre

LEICESTER LE1 6ZG

e-mail: FOIA@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

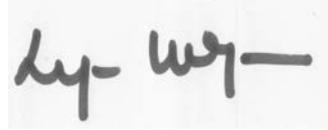
Telephone: 01625 545 700

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Wyeth', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

Lynn Wyeth
Information Governance Manager