

Information Governance

Coventry City Council PO Box 15 Council House Coventry CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

Please contact Information Governance Direct line 024 7697 5408 infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Date: 6 July 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ07237

Thank you for your request for information relating to the Lease to build residential units at Parkside.

I am seeking information to find out who was the company/person who was successfully accepted via Coventry Council tendering process and approved at full cabinet to acquire the lease in order develop the land at Parkside, Paradise Street that will provide 494 residential apartments.

The Council are in the final stages of a tendering process for provision of these services and where formal agreements have not yet been completed, and therefore the contract has not yet been awarded.

In respect of the information requested, 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 commercial interests of both the Council and individual tendering organisations taking part in the process and that Section 43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged, where disclosure would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person.

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.

The Council always seeks value for money and makes every effort to promote fair competition. However, the Council considers that by disclosing this information during an

on-going procurement process to the world-at-large, organizations that are not able to demonstrate at least the same level of innovation and initiative may benefit by claiming to undertake particular activities that they are either not able to fulfill or even have no intention to fulfill on contract implementation.

The factors against disclosure outweigh the factors in favour of disclosure. As the public interest test is met, the exemption applies and your request for this information is refused.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the <u>Council's web site</u> and in particular its FOI/EIR <u>Disclosure log</u>, <u>Council's Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Open Data</u> and <u>Facts about Coventry</u>.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

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