

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) Decision notice

Date: 8 April 2025

Public Authority: Cherwell District Council

Address: Castle Quay Shopping Centre

39 Castle Quay

Banbury OX16 5FD

1. Request:

The complainant requested the following information from Cherwell District Council on 5 February 2025.

"under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations, we would

like to request the following information:

1 All internal and external communications concerning the Original Application including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.

2 All internal and external communications concerning the First UU including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or



blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; 80616131.2 Confidential 2

- (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.
- 3 All internal and external communications concerning the Variation Application including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.
- 4 All internal and external communications concerning the Second UU including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.
- 5 All internal and external communications concerning application 23/03124/F including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.
- 6 All internal and external communications concerning application 24/01378/CLUP including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other



relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.

7 All internal and external communications concerning application 24/02301/CLUE including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved in its consideration; and (vi) all relevant third parties.

8 All internal and external communications concerning the Applicants of the Original Application, Variation Application, 23/03124/F, 24/01378/CLUP and 24/02301/CLUE ([redacted name] and [redacted name]) including, but not limited to, emails, letters and messages (on any of the Council's internal messaging platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams)), meeting minutes, memos, reports, notes and any other correspondence exchanged between or involving (including by way of carbon copy or blind carbon copy) the Council's (i) planning officers; (ii) senior officers; (iii) legal department; (iv) support staff; (v) any other relevant individuals or departments involved; and (vi) all relevant third parties.

For the avoidance of doubt the First UU and Second UU are annexed to this request.

If any exemptions apply, we request that any non-exempt material be provided.

We would like you to provide the information in an electronic format (e.g., PDF) by way of email."

2. Commissioner's Decision:

A public authority will breach regulation 5(2) of the EIR if it fails to respond to a request within 20 working days. Based on evidence available to the Commissioner, by the date of this notice the public authority has not issued a substantive response to this request. Therefore the Commissioner finds a breach of regulation 5(2).



3. Steps:

The public authority must provide a substantive response to the request in accordance with its obligations under the EIR.

The public authority must take this step within 30 calendar days of the date of this decision notice. Failure to comply may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court pursuant to section 54 of FOIA and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

4. Right of Appeal:

Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the Firsttier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights) GRC & GRP Tribunals, PO Box 9300, LEICESTER, LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963 Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: grc@justice.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber

Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar)

days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF