



Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information**

I am writing in respect of your enquiry dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 for information held by the Council. Your request is being dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act") as we do not consider it to be a request for environmental information.

1. You have requested the following information:

The provision of any information on the Council's land holdings in Kent or elsewhere, inside or outside the UK.

You expected this to include the acreage/hectarage, the address and the value of the land holdings, the date purchased and/or acquired, and price paid. Additionally you expected it to include any land managed for and on behalf of any landowner other than the Council itself.

2. My initial assessment of responding to your enquiry, is that the costs of searching, retrieval and collation of the information requested, will be in the region of £1,912 which is above the costs threshold of £450 (refer to attached guidance notes for further details). This represents the estimated cost of a person spending 10.2 working days in determining whether the Council holds the information and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.
3. Under s.12(1) of the FOI Act, the Council is not obliged to respond to your enquiry if it estimates that the costs of responding will exceed the costs threshold.
4. On this occasion, although the Council holds most of the information requested, the Council has decided to refuse your request on the ground that the costs threshold has been exceeded.
5. I invite you to consider modifying/reformulating your request to reduce the costs and am willing to provide you with advice and assistance on how this may be achieved. The most time consuming aspect of your request is the request for the date purchased and/or acquired and price paid. Additionally, acreage information is only held for a limited number of the Council's properties. However, please note that some of the information you have asked for is published on the Council's website at: <http://www.dartford.gov.uk/by-category/council-and-democracy2/transparency-in-local-government> and using the link to "Land and Property Assets"
6. If you wish to object to my decision, or if you are unhappy with the way in which your enquiry has been dealt with, you may ask for an internal review by initiating the Council's Corporate Complaints Procedure,



details of which may be obtained by logging onto the Council's website <http://www.dartford.gov.uk/council/> or telephoning or emailing me. Should you remain dissatisfied with the decision on internal review, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.

I would be grateful if you would address any future correspondence you may have in relation to this matter, to me, quoting the reference number FOI 1088.

Yours sincerely

Tim Sams

[Financial Services Manager]