



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Báin
Derry Cittyie & Stràbane
Destricks Council

Ref: FOI / 1592

05 January 2018

Mr

Email: @gmail.com

Dear Mr

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request European Capital of Culture bid, 'We Are 2023'.

Thank you for your email, dated 6 December 2017, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as follows:

1. A copy of all correspondence with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) sent and received (redacted where appropriate if necessary under the terms of the FOI Act) internally and externally, in relation to the European Capital of Culture bid.
2. A copy of all minutes of meetings related to the European Capital of Culture bid.

The Council has decided that the information it holds can be disclosed into the public domain, subject to the redaction of personal data of employees of organisations other than Belfast City Council. Accordingly, a redacted version of the information you requested is attached.

I shall now explain the Council's reasons for withholding the redacted personal data and the exemption provided in the Freedom of Information Act being relied upon by the Council to withhold information.

As you are aware the release of information under the Freedom of Information Act equates to disclosure to the public at large and not only to the individual applicant who submits the request. Under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act, information is exempt from disclosure if it constitutes the personal data of another individual and its disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out in the Data Protection Act 1998. In this case, the redacted information

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constitutes the personal data of other identifiable living individuals, namely the employees of other organisations. The Council has an obligation under the Data Protection Act to protect the personal data and privacy of these individuals, particularly as the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act equates to its release into the public domain.

Having taken these factors into account, the Council has concluded that to disclose the redacted personal data would contravene the Data Protection Act, in particular the first data protection principle, and it is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. The decision to redact this personal data was taken on the grounds that its disclosure would be unfair, unlawful and involve an unwarranted detriment to the privacy of the individuals concerned.

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Director of Legacy

Encs



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