

The Crown Estate Disclosure Log

Case no: 1116
Date received: 20 August 2019
Subject: Beaconsfield Gardens Development
Request response
<p>Thank you for your email of 20 August 2019, which we have considered in line with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I have responded to each of your questions below.</p> <p>1. Has the Crown Estate agreed to release the land behind Beaconsfield Gardens for development?</p> <p>As you are aware, the Crown Estate's land behind Beaconsfield Gardens is being considered by Elmbridge Borough Council as a potential site for new housing to help meet local housing needs. We would support the allocation of this site in the Local Plan should the Council decide to take it forward in the plan.</p> <p>2. Is the Crown Estate therefore aware that two of the options include using green belt in Claygate owned by the Crown Estate?</p> <p>Yes - we are aware of this.</p> <p>3. Is the Crown Estate aware that this green belt has been downgraded from strong to moderately performing green belt and if so is the Crown Estate able to explain the reason for this change in status?</p> <p>We are aware that the Council employed Arup to undertake a Green Belt assessment in 2018 and that Arup classified the site as making a 'moderate' contribution to the Green Belt. As such, Arup recommended it for further consideration. The Crown Estate was not involved in this process so we do not hold any further information that would answer your question; you would need to contact the Council for an explanation of the reason for this.</p> <p>4. Has the Crown Estate had discussions with Elmbridge Council about the release of the green belt land bordering Beaconsfield Gardens?</p> <p>We have met with the Council's planning officers on a few occasions over the past few years to discuss some Crown Estate land in the Borough and to ask that it be considered for release should there be a need to do so.</p> <p>5. Has the Crown Estate held discussions with developers about the development of the green belt land bordering Beaconsfield Gardens?</p> <p>No - we have not had any such discussions and would be unlikely to do so unless and until such time as the land is allocated in the Local Plan. Even then, we would</p>

normally seek outline planning permission before we formally engaged with developers.

I hope that this information is helpful. However, if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your information request, you may complain or appeal our decision, which will be investigated through an Internal Review. If you are not content with the outcome of the Internal Review, you have the right to refer your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision (contact details are available at: www.ico.org.uk). Please note that the ICO will usually expect you to have first exhausted our own complaints procedure before raising your concerns with them.