

Request 8890 Planning S/3215/19/DC

This is a request for all information held by the council and/or Greater Cambridge Planning in regards to planning application S/3215/19/DCS. This includes all correspondence between or amongst officers and/or members of the council.

Any information previously provided in response to any previous information request is expressly excluded from this request if it has been published on the council's disclosure log available on the council's website.

Response

As this is not information we would or are ordinarily obliged to publish we find that exception regulation 12(4)(e) – the request involves the disclosure of internal communications - applies. In application of this exception we are obliged to undertake a public interest test, which under regulation 12(2) requires a presumption in favour of disclosure, to see whether in the circumstances it is reasonable to disclose the material.

Whilst in favour of disclosure is to show transparency of the planning process and decision making, it is also in the public interest to allow internal deliberation to take its set course without hindrance in normal decision-making processes. This allows fair and frank discussion within the organisation and provides a safe space for thinking and questioning to ensure policy and procedure are adhered to.

As the matter you are enquiring about is yet to be decided, and is a 'live' matter, disclosure of any such material would disturb the normal process for decision making and risk a 'chilling' effect, thus inhibiting quality of discussion and limit frankness and candour that allows robust decision making to take place. The public interest would not be served in potentially disrupting and possibly delaying a normal decision-making procedure prior to its conclusion.

All relevant material we are obliged to publish under the planning regulations is already available to you, in the public domain via the [planning portal](#).

Details of how planning decisions are managed can be found on our ['Planning FAQ'](#) page.