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Mr Julian Cheyne

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26<sup>th</sup> September 2008

FOI 308C

Dear Mr Cheyne

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION / FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

We refer to your email, dated 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008, sent in reply to the review of our response to your original request. We note that you have now narrowed your request to the confirmation of names of the freeholders/leaseholders and how much they were paid, for the following pieces of land:

1. Clays Lane estate
2. Park Village estate
3. Eastway cycle circuit and land
4. Manor Gardens allotments
5. Waterden Road Travellers' site
6. Clays Lane Traveller's site
7. Eastway Sports Centre
8. East Marsh

We have interpreted your request in relation to leaseholders as referring to significant leases such as headleases, rather than smaller leases for individual properties.

**Duty to confirm or deny**

We confirm that we hold information of the description specified in your request.

**Duty to communicate**

*Who received payment*

We have considered your revised request and can advise that we are able to provide information concerning the recipients of payment for land covered by the descriptions in your narrowed request. Please note that the table below outlines those Leaseholders or Freeholders that either have or will be recipients of payment for land covered in your request.

Land description	Freeholder	Leaseholder
Clays Lane estate	London Borough of Newham	Peabody Trust (Long Leaseholder)
Park Village estate	University of East London	
Eastway cycle circuit and land	Lea Valley Regional Park Authority	
Manor Gardens allotments	Lea Valley Regional Park Authority	
Waterden Road Travellers' site	London Borough of Hackney	
Clays Lane Traveller's site	London Borough of Newham	
Eastway Sports Centre	Lea Valley Regional Park Authority	
East Marsh	London Borough of Hackney	

*How much was paid*

In letter dated, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008, setting out the outcome of the LDA's review, you were advised that the information requested regarding prices paid for land was exempt from release under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act"). Section 21 exempts information which is reasonably accessible by other means, in order to preserve existing laws providing access to information and to supplement, not duplicate, the usual flow of information. Information about land values is available through the Land Registry, as well as some third party websites and it was confirmed in the review that given these circumstances, the LDA's original decision to respond in this manner was justified and reasonable.

We have therefore not included the monetary value of each purchase as land value information is included in the Title Deed for each land interest which are available on request from the Land Registry.

It was also confirmed in the letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008 that details regarding compensation payments made for land obtained through the compulsory purchase order ("CPO") are not publicly available and that the information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 43(2) of the Act. This is because disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the LDA. The LDA is still in the process of negotiating with owners, tenants and others who have compensatable interests in land subject to the CPO. The disclosure of compensation amounts already paid is likely to adversely affect the LDA's bargaining position and its ability to obtain best value for the public funds it spends. Therefore, while negotiations are ongoing, the public interest in disclosure is outweighed by the public interest in withholding the information.

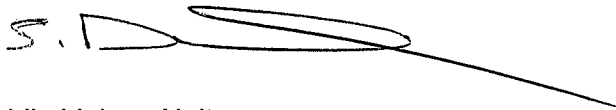
Please note that where the review suggested that the narrowing of your request may enable us to provide information, this referred only to the part of your request which asked for names of recipients of payment for land. The remaining parts of your request, namely payment amounts for specific areas of land and any additional compensation, are exempt for the reasons outlined above and therefore are not included in the response, despite the narrowing of the request.

**Complaint Procedure**

If you are not satisfied with our reply to your request, you may lodge a complaint with the LDA Public Liaison Unit at the postal address above or by email at [info@lda.gov.uk](mailto:info@lda.gov.uk). Your complaint will be considered by a senior management staff member and you will receive a reply to your complaint within 20 working days.

Should you remain dissatisfied after receiving our reply to your complaint, you may apply to the Information Commissioner to determine whether your request was dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. D.', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Public Liaison Unit  
**LONDON DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**