

21 August 2024

Freedom of Information Request, Oxford City Council – Reference: **EIR2024/00869**

Further to our acknowledgement, we can confirm that Oxford City Council can advise as follows in response to your Freedom of Information Request received on 2 August:

Request

My request is to answer the following questions:

1. Are you bringing forward your own habitat bank for the purposes of offering offsite biodiversity units?

A feasibility project is currently underway to consider the principle of using Council-owned land for the purposes of offering offsite biodiversity units.

2. If so, at what stage of development is it?

The feasibility project is at an early stage, and no conclusions on whether or not to bring forward any form of habitat bank have been reached.

3. Have you decided methodology for pricing units yet?

No.

4. If the answer to Q3 is yes, what is it and is it expected to cover the long-term cost of habitat delivery?

N/A.

5. Please supply a full, redacted or template version of any s106 agreement for such an LPA habitat bank, if it exists.

It does not exist.

6. Please supply copies of all completed section 106 agreements for other habitat banks in your LPA area.

This information is not held. We do not categorise S106 agreements in terms of ones which provide "habitat banks" and those that don't.

7. What is the total value of biodiversity offsetting contributions paid to the authority over the previous two years?

We identified 3 contributions received that specifically mention biodiversity.

1: 12/03115/FUL - Plot 8600 and part of plot 8400 Alec Issigonis Way - "Improvements to skylark habitats on sites within Oxford" - £2000

2: 18/02065/OUTFUL - Land at Oxford North - 'Biodiversity' £57,874.79

3: 21/03114/CT3 - Land at Lanham Way - "Biodiversity enhancements - the planting of 100 meters of hedgerow around the western boundary of the recreation ground at Thames View Road" £12,987.39

8. Of the total value given in Q7, how much has been deployed into habitat creation, enhancement and management and how much remains unspent?

This information is not held.

If you disagree with any part of the response to your request, you are entitled to ask the Council for an internal review of the decision(s) made. You may do this by writing to the Monitoring Officer, by either email monitoringofficer@oxford.gov.uk – or by post to Monitoring Officer, Oxford City Council, Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX. After the result of the internal review, if you remain dissatisfied, you may ask the Information Commissioner to intervene on your behalf. You may do this by writing to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer

| Freedom of Information Team | Law & Governance | Oxford City Council | Town Hall | St Aldate's
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