**Date issued:** 26th of April 2024

**Freedom of Information Request 75/24**

**You asked us…**

1. **What was the purchase price of the former Barracks in Griffith Street Pentre**
2. **What money was spent on the site whilst owned by TFW**
3. **What was the total cost of demolishing the buildings onside**
4. **What if any environmental studies were undertaken before the site was demolished.**
5. **What measures were put in place to avoid asbestos contamination.**

**RESPONSE**

Question 1

**TfW acquired the site for £225,000 and through this acquisition were able to close the level crossing utilised to gain access to site.**

**Question 2**

The only security arranged for this was for the initial 6-8 week period when we acquired the building.

It was undertaken by the mobile security patrol we had in place at that time.

There was no charge for this as the mobile security was already in place we just asked them to undertake a patrol and show a security presence at site, but this was stopped after the initial 6-8 week period.

**Question 3**

**The cost of demolition provide by Pennys Demolition is quoted as £97,960 + VAT with a provisional sum for asbestos removal given.**

**Question 4**

**Environmental and Social Management Plan with Appendices; Bat survey technical note identifying the Barracks as High potential;  EcoVigour European Protected Species Development Report, Method Statement and Licence approved through NRW (Natural Resources Wales).**

Question 5

Demolition Survey Report Assessment and Register of Asbestos Containing Materials by Enquin Environmental Ltd and Waste transfer note for Asbestos removal by Penny’s to Valencia Waste Ltd.

Please see attached documents in relation to questions 4 and 5.

In relation to the redactions in the documents, the following exemption applies -

**Section 40(2) – Personal Information**

Under this exemption, personal data should not be disclosed if this would contravene the data protection principles.

Personal data is defined by the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) as follows -

 **“‘personal data’ means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person”.**

**ICO guidance states the following –**

**When a public authority receives a request for information that constitutes personal data about its employees, it must decide whether disclosure would breach Principle 1 of the Data Protection Act (the DPA), ie whether it would be fair and lawful to disclose the information. Whether the disclosure is fair will depend on a number of factors including:**

 **• whether it is sensitive personal data;**

 **• the consequences of disclosure;**

 **• the reasonable expectations of the employees; and**

**• whether there is a legitimate interest in the public or requester having access to the information and the balance between this and the rights and freedoms of the data subjects.**

**In this case, we have identified that the names of the individuals contained in these documents is personal data AND the release of the individuals name WOULD contravene the first principle of the DPA.**

TfW need to consider the likely impacts or consequences that disclosure personal information will have on staff. Data should not be disclosed if disclosure will cause unjustified adverse effects on the staff concerned.

It is important to remember that disclosure of personal information under the FOI is to “the world at large”.

The key question when it comes to disclosing personal information, is what is the harm that will arise from disclosure.

The individuals in question would not have any expectation that their name would be released into the public domain.

The potential negative impact which could arise from disclosure far outweighs any public interest. Release of the individuals name could lead to frequent communications amounting to harassment.

The negative impact on the individual and on TfW cannot be ignored.

We hope this information is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Transport for Wales**

**Appeal Rights**

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the Head of Freedom of Information at either Transport for Wales, 3 Llys Cadwyn, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH or freedomofinformation@tfw.wales. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner (ICO) can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or you can contact the ICO through the 'Make a Complaint' section of their website on this link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

The relevant section to select will be "Official or Public Information".