



30 October 2020

By Email

**Freedom of Information Act 2000/ Environmental Information Regulation 2004 Request Response
Reference: F20-004**

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 2 October 2020, which we received on 5 October 2020.

You requested the following information:

- i. *the assessment the Sponsor Body and the Development Authority have made of their requirement to use land in Victoria Tower Gardens during the Restoration & Renewal programme, in terms of the amount of land needed and the period for which it would be required;*
- ii. *the assessment they have made of the interaction between their own requirements and those of the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre;*
- iii. *the assessment they have made of the risks identified from that interaction and the steps which would be needed to mitigate them; and*
- iv. *copies of substantive communications between the Sponsor Body, the Delivery Authority and the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation, any representatives or associates of the Foundation, and between the Sponsor Body, the Delivery Authority and the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government dealing with these issues.*

You noted that you are also writing to the House of Commons requesting similar information for the period before April 2020.

The Programme does not hold the information that you have requested for the period since April 2020.

In February 2020, the Accounting Officers for the Commons, Lords and the shadow Sponsor Body submitted a letter (attached) in relation to the UK Holocaust Memorial planning inquiry. The Programme's position has not changed in the time since the letter was submitted.

Large construction projects usually require space outside of the permanent works boundary. These construction hubs are typically for essential project management, commercial and administrative staff and activities associated with the project. They may include areas for equipment and materials storage,



as well as providing welfare facilities¹. For the Restoration and Renewal Programme, the location and size of such spaces will be carefully considered as part of an overall site layout plan which the Programme is not yet in the position to produce.

Information provided in this response is correct at this time, however work on the Houses of Parliament Restoration & Renewal Programme continues and any outcomes may ultimately differ from those presented herein.

If you are unhappy with the response or level of service that you have received in relation to your request, please contact us in the first instance and we will seek to reach an informal resolution. If you remain dissatisfied, then you may ask for an internal review. If you ask for an internal review of the decision, we will acknowledge this request and inform you of the date by which you might expect to be told the outcome. The following outcomes are possible:

- The original decision is upheld; or
- The original decision is reversed or modified.

If you wish to exercise your right to an internal review then you should contact us within two months of the date of this letter, and within 40 working days for information provided under the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations. There is no statutory deadline for undertaking internal reviews and the timescale will depend upon the complexity of the matter. We would normally endeavour to complete such reviews within 20 working days of acknowledgement, and exceptionally within 40 working days. We will keep you informed of the progress of the review. If you wish to request a review you should contact foi@r-r.org.uk.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, then you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the '[Making a Complaint](#)' section of their website or by phone on 0303 123 1113.

Please cite your reference number F20-004 in any future correspondence with us.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
Houses of Parliament
Restoration and Renewal

¹ From the definition of a 'Main Construction Compound':

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/259492/Glossary_ES_3.1.1.pdf



5 February 2020

Town and Country Planning Act 1990: Direction Under Section 77
Application Reference 19/00114/Full
Representations: Appeal Reference App/X5990/V/19/3240661

Dear 

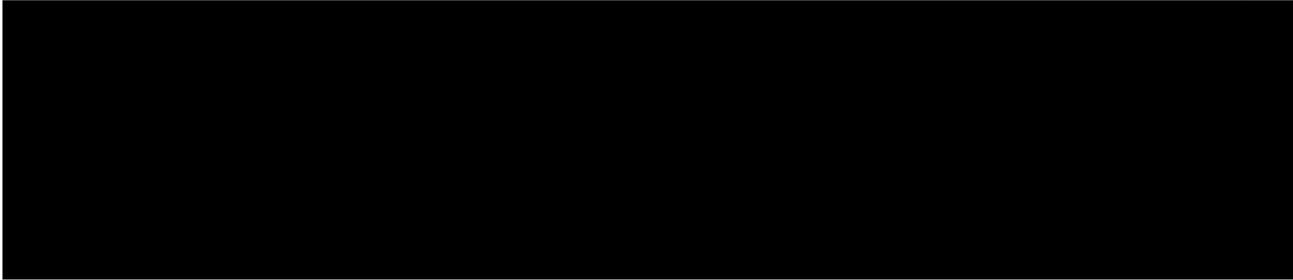
Thank you for your notice dated 16 December 2019 addressed to the “Palace of Westminster” referring to a direction made by the Secretary of State under section 77 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in connection with the proposed Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre in Victoria Tower Gardens, and seeking representations by 10 February 2020.

We are writing as Accounting Officers of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and as Chief Executive of the Restoration and Renewal Sponsor Body, to make representations on behalf of the two Houses.

It is not our intention to seek to register opposition to the proposal for the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. But the Palace of Westminster, and other elements of the Parliamentary Estate, neighbour the Victoria Tower Gardens. We accordingly wish to ensure that consideration is given to mitigating, during both the construction and the operation of the proposed Memorial and Learning Centre, any possible impacts on the infrastructure, amenities and operation, including the security, logistics and access operations, of Parliament, and on wider access to Parliament’s precincts. There could well also be cost implications for Parliament arising from the proposal but these cannot yet be known.

In terms of timing, impacts could arise over a number of time periods: first, in the short term while Parliament is operating “as is” and the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre is under construction; secondly, and later once the Memorial and learning Centre is open, during works on the Palace and the wider parliamentary estate as part of the Restoration and Renewal Programme; and, finally, once that programme is complete, in the longer term when both the Palace and parliamentary estate, and the Memorial and Learning Centre, are fully operational.

The Parliamentary Authorities already have good working links with officials working on the proposed Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre and we will ensure that we play our part in maintaining and enhancing those. But the Parliamentary Authorities would welcome the opportunity to be reassured that the interests of Parliament will be fully taken into account.



Clerk of the Parliaments

Clerk of the House

**CEO shadow Sponsor
Body**