

03 April 2009

Our ref: R00092

Freedom of Information request – Kent International Gateway

Your request to SEEDA is:

1. Does SEEDA support the Application by Kent International Gateway to build an RFI and Unrelated Commercial Development off J8 M20 Maidstone Kent.
2. If SEEDA does support the proposal, please explain why SEEDA considers an RFI and related commercial development at this particular site is more appropriate than other potential RFI sites in the South-East.
 - a. When replying please identify which other potential sites in the South-East SEEDA considered and
 - b. Explain why they were dismissed in favour of KIG.
3. Please supply minutes of meetings, correspondence and records of conversations held between SEEDA (and any of its officers or employees) and consultants, organisations or other individuals acting on their behalf.
4. Please supply details of hospitalities or other considerations received by any officer or employees of SEEDA from KIG and its promoters including the AXA Group, their officers and employees and consultants, organisations or other individuals acting on their behalf.

Information Provided

1. Please see the attached two letters from SEEDA to Maidstone BC. These are already in the public domain and set out SEEDA's formal position and reasoning on the question.
2. Please see the attached two letters from SEEDA to Maidstone BC, as 1 above.



3. Two informal meetings have occurred, the purpose of which were for the promoter of KIG to brief SEEDA on the proposals. Neither meeting has a record of the discussion and no decisions were made or undertakings given.

Meeting 1 - 03 May 2007

Tim Stansfeld and Mark Heverin from SEEDA met with Steve Messenger of the AXA Group, John Rhodes of RPS and Mike Garratt of MDS Transmodal. This was essentially a talk through of the technical aspects of their application. Mr Heverin undertook to pass on contact details of Locate in Kent to John Rhodes. Mr Stansfeld provided general information on the strategic context provided by the Regional Economic Strategy. No other advice or assistance was given by SEEDA.

Mark Heverin's meeting notes were as follows:

Development was special delivery vehicle for AXA
4m sq ft warehousing
Access to motorway & W9 clearance rail route
35 paths per day
Suitable gradients
Potential; 12/14 trains per day
No agreement with train operator

Meeting 2 - 05 March 2008

James Brathwaite, Chairman of SEEDA, met with Gavin Stollar, representative of Templar Strategies, a company acting for the developers of KIG.

4. No gifts or hospitality have been accepted by any Board member, officer or employee of SEEDA from KIG and its promoters including the AXA Group, their officers and employees and consultants, organisations or other individuals acting on their behalf.