

10th July 2009

Our ref: R00123

R00123 – FOI Request – Radio Broadband Internet Access

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Request... concerning information relating to East Sussex County Council's decision to give sole rights for the provision of radio broadband internet access in the villages of Isfield and Little Horsted to Call Flow Solutions.

Your request to SEEDA is:

I would like to know how much money was given to ESCC by SEEDA to facilitate this arrangement, when it was paid, what it was spent on and whether this money could have been given to British Telecom to (partly) fund an upgrade of the relevant telephone exchange.

Information requested

No.	Question	Response
Q1	How much money was given to East Sussex County Council by SEEDA to facilitate this arrangement.	On 27/5/2003 SEEDA contracted with East Sussex County Council to fund a project for consultancy work (£30,000) and for broadband enablement in areas where BT had not provided a service (£50,000). The contract required East Sussex County Council to evaluate all applications for the broadband service on a competitive cost basis.
Q2	Date when SEEDA paid these monies to East Sussex County Council.	£50,000 was paid to East Sussex County Council on 19/1/2006 after completion of the project.
Q3	This money was spent on.	SEEDA does not hold this information. East Sussex County Council was responsible for setting up contracts with broadband service suppliers.
Q4	Could these monies have been given to British Telecom to (partly) fund an upgrade of the relevant telephone exchange.	This would have been a decision made by East Sussex County Council. At the time of the application to SEEDA East Sussex County Council stated that "BT has no plans to enable broadband at the Isfield exchange".