



Rutland County Council

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12 February 2019

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 106/19

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request:

As a resident of Edith Weston I would like to have access to all the financial projections relating to the potential income to Rutland County Council throughout the life cycle of the planned scheme.

So far there has been little or no information as to the financial reasoning behind this development but obviously with c 3000 houses paying the average council tax for the area, plus the normal payments to RCC when developing, I estimate that the income would have a material impact on RCC. I would like to see your projections, financials plans and how this might affect the future financial security of the county and the existing council tax payers.

Response:

Rutland County Council maintains a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) which sets out projected income and expenditure over the next five years. Projected income includes Council tax as you might expect. The current published MTFP goes to 2023/24 so does not extend to the period when we might see houses built and occupied at St George's Barracks.

Our current MTFP assumes that the Council will build c160 houses per annum. Over the past 10 years this has been a consistent trend although it has fluctuated from year to year. The additional housing has brought with it Council tax income alongside increased expenditure as we have responded to growing pressures in social care and other areas. Despite this growth in Council tax, our current MTFP shows that we have a serious financial challenge moving forward. This is because we face so much uncertainty around Government funding allocations, economic conditions, a growing elderly population etc.

As it stands, from next year we may be "losing" £1.5m per annum if we do not make savings, generate income or get extra Government funding.

Whilst we do not have projections for beyond 2023/24, the assumptions in our MTFP will not change in 2024/25, we are still going to be building c150 houses per annum. We will still build in an estimate of the additional costs of delivering services to 160 new homes



and new residents. At this stage, we would hope that the additional Council tax will cover any new costs and whilst this is likely, it is also uncertain.

In summary, there are so many variables and assumptions that impact our financial position, that our position is quite neutral. It is not being pursued for reasons of financial security. Equally, we do not anticipate a greater financial challenge because of it.

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You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
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Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council