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Directorate of Place

*From*  
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24 October 2017

FAO Amanda Barnley, Town Clerk

Dear Amanda

**Re: Information Requests CRM Ref. iw17/9/35956**

Thank you for your request for information dated 4 October 2017 in respect of the following enquiry. As requested, this matter has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- Has the Isle of Wight Council levied penalties to any parties for any reason in regard to the floating bridge no. 6 project.

I have checked with relevant colleagues and must advise that any information relating to any penalties that may apply to this project are exempt from disclosure under the Act. We consider this information is commercially sensitive and is therefore exempt under section 43 of Part II of the Act.

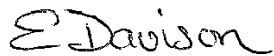
The council is currently in the process of negotiations with relevant parties in connection with this contract and we believe that the release of any information would be likely to prejudice the interests of both the Council, and the third party, in its commercial activities. The information is therefore exempt under Section 43(2) of the Act. The release of this information could have a detrimental impact on the way the Council conducts its business.

The Council has considered the Public Interest Test in this case, and it is of the opinion that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in providing the information. Whilst discussions and negotiations are taking place it is important for commercially sensitive to be protected from the public eye, to save jeopardizing the process. Disclosure of this type of information could undermine the ability of the Council to carry out its duties effectively, as third parties may choose not to enter into negotiations with the Council.

Please contact me again if you require any further assistance on this matter and I will do my best to provide relevant help and advice.

If you have any complaints in respect of your information request, please write to the Corporate Information Unit, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1EW, by email to [information@iow.gov.uk](mailto:information@iow.gov.uk), or complete the on-line appeals form that can be found at [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com). If your complaint is not resolved to your satisfaction, you have the ultimate right, once you have exhausted the internal appeals process, to appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E Davison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'E'.

Elaine Davison  
Administrator