



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Public Questions

Question from Mr. Jon Collins to Chair of Strategy and Resources Committee
Question 1
Can the full bid, evaluation of winning bidder plus failed bids be published? Specifically around how well tenderers responded to community-related criteria. Understood that identities can be redacted.
Reply
<p>The reasons for confidentiality regarding the bids and their evaluation are explained in paragraph 3.1 of the Public Report to this meeting. Once the Committee has made its decision, and the standstill period has concluded, the preferred developer will be announced. From this point (and in accordance with the answer to Q2 below), the preferred bidder's proposed designs will be published and the public engagement process will commence.</p> <p>The full bids cannot lawfully be released during a live procurement process. Additionally, publication is not possible even once the procurement is completed unless the tenderers agree to such publication, since the received bids contain commercially sensitive information and intellectual property. If consent is received from the unsuccessful tenderers, the Council will consider publishing the other tenderers' plans once the Development Agreement becomes unconditional (i.e. on the receipt of an acceptable planning permission).</p> <p>The evaluation of bids (the Tender Report) can also be published at this stage.</p> <p>Tenderers' commercial assumptions and business plans will not be released owing to their commercial sensitivity.</p> <p>Please see the answer to Q3 below regarding the community facilities.</p>
Question 2
When will developer plans be published and can the public have the assurance they will have time to scrutinise the plans?
Reply
<p>Section 8 of the public report sets out the next steps including public engagement and the first public meeting where it is anticipated that the developer will present and explain their plans; however, details of what will be shared, and when, will be agreed with the developer once selected. We will publicise this timetable once agreed in due course. The public meeting will be in addition to, and occur plenty of time before, any planning pre-application consultation starts. As such, there will be time for the public to scrutinise and comment on the plans.</p> <p>Members of the community will, of course, also be able to input into the planning process in the usual way and the formal planning process takes all public comments into account before a decision is reached. There will therefore be an iterative shaping of proposals for the site with public input.</p>

Question 3

What specific community facilities are to be provided, as per the winning tender? If this information cannot yet be provided, can it be added to the information to be provided on 26 July?

Reply

As set out in Section 4 of the public Committee report, discussions with Brimscombe and Thrupp Parish Council are ongoing regarding the community facilities and the Parish Council's requirements. Tenders were based on the requirements set out in paragraph 3.1.6 of the Output Specification, as agreed with the Parish Council prior to the tender process commencing. Following selection, the Developer will engage with the Parish Council to discuss and conclude the Parish Council's finalised requirements. The selected developer's proposals form part of the overall masterplan for the site, and will be published in accordance with the answer to Q2 above. The construction and upkeep costs of the community facilities are to be met by the Parish Council, while the land on which they are located will be contributed by the District Council for no financial consideration.