



~~Ms Elizabeth Eade~~
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Please ask for: Gerry Carpenter
Tel: 0303 444 8135
Email: gerry.carpenter@communities.gsi.gov.uk
Our ref: E0006964

Date: 20 November 2013

~~Dear Ms Eade~~

Request for information – Environmental Information Regulations

1. I refer to previous correspondence concerning your request for information relating to allotment disposals. In your e-mail of 23 October 2013 you confirmed your request to know:

- “a) The number of requests for a change of use of statutory allotment land in accordance with Section 8 Allotments Act received by DCLG in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 to date;
- b) In each case the area of land involved;
- c) The reason for the request and the dispensation required e.g. disposal, alternative use, lease to third party for the cases submitted post 15 March 2011;
- d) In each case the outcome i.e. change of use allowed or not;
- e) The reason for the Secretary of State's decision for the cases submitted post 15 March 2011;
- f) The cases judicially reviewed and outcomes, and any cases pending judicial review”

2. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) because it is environmental in nature. I am able to provide three following tables containing most of the information you have requested:

- Table 1: Requests for allotment disposal received by the Secretary of State from 1 January 2010 to 14 March 2011;
- Table 2: Requests for allotment disposals received by Secretary of State from 15 March 2011 to 31 October 2013, with details;

- Table 3: The number of applications for disposal of allotments received from local authorities by calendar year, from 1 January 2010 to 31 October 2013.

3. Applications for the disposal of statutory allotments are determined in accordance with criteria contained within the letters of 27 February 2002, from the former Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions and 1 July 2009, from the Department of Communities and Local Government, copies of which are attached. It might be helpful if I explain that most decisions are taken by officials who have been given delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Ministers. In general terms, applications which comply with the criteria have been granted consent, whilst applications failing to do so have been refused consent.

4. As an organisation, the Department for Communities and Local Government aims to be as helpful as possible in the way it deals with requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. If, however, you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been handled or the outcome, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter by contacting foirequests@communities.gsi.gov.uk

5. In the event that you remain dissatisfied following the Department's review you have the right to apply directly to the [Information Commissioner](#) (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Internal Review procedure provided by the Department.

6. Please quote the reference number listed overleaf in any future communications with us.

Yours sincerely,



Gerry Carpenter
Senior Planning Manager

TABLE 3

The number of applications for disposal of allotments received from local authorities by calendar year, from 01/01/2010 to 31/10/2013					
Calendar Year	Number of Applications	Number Approved	Number Refused	Number Consented	Other (Undecided, Invalid, Withdrawn etc)
2010	21	17			4
2011	22	18			4
2012	20	15	1		4
2013	20	9	1		10
TOTAL	83	59	2		22

Table 1
Requests for Allotments Disposal received by Secretary of State from
1 January 2010 to 14 March 2011

Year Received	Location	Authority	Area of Allotment Land	Date Received	Date Decision Issued	Decision	Case Subject to Judicial Review
2010	Vicarage Lane North, Redbridge	Redbridge Borough Council	0.5 hectares	08/12/10	11/01/11	Granted	
2010	Moore Road, Bourton on the Water, Gloucester	Bourton on the Water Parish Council	0.2 hectares	11/10/10	18/01/11	Granted	
2010	Milton Allotments	Milton Parish Council	6 acres	27/08/10	02/12/10	Invalid	
2010	Merrington Lane, Spennymoor	Spennymoor Town Council	Not recorded	25/08/10	26/08/10	Withdrawn	
2010	Steel Street Allotments, Consett	Durham County Council	0.78 hectares	18/06/10	05/11/10	Granted	
2010	Alleys Lane, Cookhamdean, Berkshire	Cookham Parish Council	0.72 hectares	16/08/10	23/11/10	Granted	
2010	Bleachfield Street South, Alcester	Alcester Town Council	0.026 hectares	26/07/10	13/10/10	Granted	
2010	Moss Hall Lane, Lytham St Annes, Lancashire	Fylde Borough Council	53 sqm	28/06/10	21/09/10	Granted	
2010	Bristol Rd 1 Allotment site, Bridgwater	Bridgwater Town Council	1.47 hectares	28/05/10	14/09/10	Granted	
2010	Bristol Rd 2 Allotment site, Bridgwater	Bridgwater Town Council	0.93 hectares	28/05/10	14/09/10	Granted	
2010	Feckenham Allotments	Redditch Borough Council	1.195 acres	17/05/10	26/07/10	Invalid	
2010	Eccleston Old Lane Allotments, St. Helens	St Helens Council	0.043 hectares	27/04/10	07/06/10	Granted	
2010	Sailings Allotments, Grimsby	North East Lincolnshire Council	4.12 hectares	26/04/10	28/07/10	Granted	
2010	Ardenham Lane	Aylesbury Vale District	0.279 hectares	12/04/10	02/07/10	Granted	

	Allotments, Aylesbury, Buckingham shire	Council					
2010	Embankmen t Lane, Plymouth	Plymouth City Council	1.2 heclares	09/04/10	09/06/10	Granted	
2010	Lynton Road Allotments, Bristol	Bristol City Council	0.4 heclares	26/02/10	22/06/10	Granted	
2010	Norman Way Allotments	Colchester Council	0.75 heclares	15/02/10	22/07/10	Withdrawn	
2010	Trent Vale Allotments Broxtowe	Broxtowe Council	0.55 heclares	12/02/10	08/04/10	Granted	
2010	Felmingham Allotments	Norfolk County Council	0.19 heclares	26/01/10	28/07/10	Granted	
2010	Braunton Road Allotments	Barnstaple Town Council	Include area	11/01/10	04/03/10	Granted	
2010	Ivel Springs Nature Res. North Road Baldock	North Hertfordshire Council	3,070 sqm	05/01/10	20/10/11	Granted	
2011	Little Breach	Chichester City Council	Not available	03/03/11	27/07/11	Withdrawn	
2011	Willow Crescent, Oakham, Rutland	Oakham Town Council	0.2 heclares	18/02/11	04/05/11	Granted	
2011	Storehouse Allotments, Ferryhill	Ferryhill Town Council	0.1386 heclares	03/02/11	19/08/11	Granted	
2011	Hunters Moon Allotments/ Burstow Allotments	Tandridge Council	0.353 heclares	02/02/11	06/10/11	Granted	
2011	Sandhall Green Halifax	Calderdale MBC	1,402 sqm	25/01/11	04/03/11	Granted	
2011	Stockdove Way, Perivale, Ealing	Ealing Council	328 sqm	12/01/11	11/03/11	Granted	
2011	Hill Rise, Greenford, Ealing	Ealing Council	662 sqm	12/01/11	04/03/11	Granted	
2011	Land adjacent to Forngett Community Hall	Forngett Parish Council	0.5 hectare	12/01/11	24/01/12	Granted	

Requests for Allotments Disposal received by Secretary of State from 15/03/2011 to 31/10/13, with details

Year Received	Location	Authority	Reason for Application	Area of Allotment Land	Date Received	Date Decision Issued	Decision	Reason for Decision	Case Subject to Judicial Review
2011	Allotment Gardens, Marsworth Road	Pitstone Parish Council	Request by Pitstone Parish Council to sell part of land designated for allotment use. Area of land lost - 6070 sqm Area of replacement land - 8290 sqm New use for land lost - to be used along with other land to join up old and new communities creating a new village centre, doubling the size of the village.	6,070 sqm	09/12/11	29/02/12	Granted		
2011	St George Riding School, Marling Road, Part of Hillside Allotments, Kenn Road St George Bristol	Bristol City Council	Area of allotment land lost: 240 sq m2 Area of replacement allotment land: 5140 sq m2 New use: appropriation of use to extending a Primary School	240 sqm	23/11/11	25/01/12	Granted		
2011	Fletton High Street Allotments	Peterborough City Council	Request to sell 1.37 hectares of former allotment land (unused rear section only) at Monarch Avenue formerly part of Fletton High Street Allotments. Has been out of use as allotment land since 1992 due to its poor drainage and condition generally. Land is to be sold off for an affordable housing development.	1.37 hectares	01/11/11	16/01/12	Granted		
2011	The Ellers Lund Road Uiverston	Uiverston Uiverston Town Council	Sale of 1,302 sq m to United Utilities for an underground detention tank to be operated by United Utilities to alleviate discharges of wastewater to Town Beck adjoining in storm conditions. 3 plots to be disposed of Plot holders (Plots 26	1,302 sqm	30/09/11	14/12/11	Granted		

							and 35) to be accommodated within the site Plot 36, 223 sq m used as an orchard to be accommodated on another site at Ulverston either Dragley Beck or Sandside allotment							
2011	Colesmead Allotments Redhill	Reigate & Banstead Borough Council	Sandwell MBC	Wood Green Allotments	Darsham Village Allotments	Southampton City Council	No details available	0.0104 hectares	16/09/11	26/01/12	Withdrawn			
2011							Sale of allotment land.	1.2 hectares	15/08/11	13/12/11	Granted			
2011							Possible appropriation of land to site a new village hall. The site currently covers 1.31 hectares of which only 0.45 hectares is/would be set out for allotments.	1.31 hectares	25/07/11	21/02/12	Other			
2011	Broadlands Road Allotment	Southampton City Council	Southampton City Council				Southampton City Council via Capita Symonds want to dispose of this site for sale under section 8 of the allotments act 1925 Area of allotment land lost:0.4ha Area of replacement:0.4ha - No allotment plots will be lost just moved to a new location The new use: part of the university development	0.4 hectares	25/05/11	12/07/11	Granted			
2011	Glencott Lane, Wookey Hole, Near Wells, Somerset	Parish Council of St Cuthbert (Out) Wells					Parish Council purchased additional land next to existing allotment site (nearly 4 acres). For waiting list plus additional facilities - playing field and small car park for allotment tenants. Car park would have to be on existing plot of land, resulting in loss of 5 plots. This land would be replaced with new land (newly purchased) creating 15 additional plots plus 5 plots lost on the original site. Parish Council needs approval to exchange the land. Area of allotment land lost: 1200m2 Area of replacement allotment land:	1200 sqm	23/05/11	28/02/12	Granted			

					9600m2. New use: car parking and recreational US									
2011	Hoo Road Allotments, Meppershall, Bedfordshire	Meppershall Parish Council			Request to dispose of allotment site which has been used by only one individual for some years and is no longer required. Site adjoins the Old Road Nature Reserve and will be incorporated into it. No plot holders displaced.	0.648 hectares	12/04/11	05/09/11		Granted				
2011	Land at Barton, Oxford	Oxford City Council			Application for consent to dispose of statutory allotment land for a large residential development of up to 1000 houses. No plot holders will be displaced and the site has been unworked for some considerable time.	12.724 hectares	20/04/11	27/05/11		Granted				
2011	Rear of 25 Warnham Road, Horsham	Horsham District Council			Proposal to acquire allotment land for the purposes of providing an access to the rear of 25 Warnham Road. No allotments will be lost as the proposal is to grant access to the rear of 25 Warnham Road from the access road to the allotments.	133 sqm	01/04/11	29/04/11		Granted				
2011	Stones Road Allotment Site	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council			Proposal to change part of the allotment site into a buffer zone between an existing traveller site and the allotments and will incorporate a new pond and a hibernaculum. Application has been withdrawn as the Council now consider the allotment site to be non-statutory	0.23 hectares	30/03/11	21/06/11		Withdrawn				
2012	Allotments at Bradley Road Open Space, Luton	Luton Borough Council			Former allotment land will be used with an adjoining parcel of land for the building of 43 houses (including 12 affordable and 3 affordable shared ownership). Land was designated for allotment use but never used as such due to the allotment being laid out in a different part of the Bradley Rd site.	1 acre	19/11/12	21/11/12		Granted				
2012	Guardhouse Allotment Site	Keighley Town Council			7.24 acres unsuitable for allotments and disused	7.24 acres	25/10/12	09/05/13		Granted				

2012	Former Fairhill Allotments, Clapham, Bedford	Bedford Borough Council	Request to dispose of allotment land to construct a highway and to release the remainder of the land for employment use as a hotel	8.77 hectares	12/10/12	07/12/12	Granted	
2012	Willow Lane Allotments, Hertfordshire	Watford Borough Council	Disposal of allotment land for the benefit of Watford Health Campus Scheme	1.31 hectares	17/09/12	07/10/12	Granted	
2012	Horsell Allotments	Woking Borough Council	Appropriate 887 sq m of allotment site at Bulbeggars Lane: 9 plots to be taken	887 sqm	01/08/12	15/11/12	Granted	
2012	Claremont Road Allotments	Bath & North East Somerset Council	Local planning authority application to sell a small area of land which is part of the statutory allotment site for development adjacent to the site.	0.0013 hectares	05/07/12	07/11/12	Granted	
2012	Ashorne, Warwickshire	Newbold Pacey and Ashorne Parish Council	Parish Council propose to dispose of 1 acre of allotment land to plant trees and create a natural play area. No allotment holders will be displaced. Of the 12 plots on the adjoining 0.5 acre allotment site, only 8 have been let.	1 acre	02/07/12	01/07/13	Granted	
2012	Pinvin Allotments, Main St, Pinvin, Worcestershire	Pinvin Parish Council	Request for temporary change of use of 6 acres of land at Pinvin Allotments, Main Street Pinvin, Worcestershire. Wish to lease unused plots as grazing land on a temporary 10 year lease	6 acres	15/06/12	04/09/12	Withdrawn	
2012	Widford Chase, Chelmsford	Chelmsford Borough Council	Proposal to dispose of statutory allotment site, approximately 986m2, for residential development. No plot holders are on site and there have been no lettings since the early 1990's. There is provision for 4 plots	986 sqm	21/05/12	05/07/12	Granted	
2012	Little Breach Allotments	Chichester District Council	Application to dispose of by lease four plots to be used as private garden land	Not available	18/05/12	17/12/12	Withdrawn	
2012	Mickleham Way Allotments, Mickleham Way, New	Croydon Council	Croydon Council seek lease to allow a lottery funded project Good Food Matters scheme to operate on 40 plots at this Allotment Site.	0.6 hectares	17/05/12	21/12/12	Granted	

2012	Addington, CRO OHL Howbury Lane, Slade Green, Erith	London Borough of Bexley	Disposal of Howbury Lane, Slade Green Erith, Kent to register Social Landlord. owbury lane was acquired as allotment land but was never brought into use. Area of land = 0.55Ha, loss of plots = 0, proposed use social housing. Over all need in Bexley:- 58 people waiting for plots (38 from Bexley) currently 32 vacant plots and 80 plots that are grassed over.	0.55 hectares	04/05/12	05/07/12	Granted		
2012	Sandygate Lane, Allotment Site	Hempsworth Town Council	Disposal of strip of land, part of allotment site. Hemsworth Town Council has been approached by the District Council to see if they would sell them this piece of land as they are looking to build houses on property that they own which is situated across from the allotment site.	0.1537 hectares	27/04/12	29/06/12	Refused		
2012	Broadway Allotments, Failham, Oakham	Oldham Council	Move allotments to make way for housing and other development. Provide 1.6acres	1.6 acres	13/03/12	21/03/12	Invalid		
2012	Land at 20 Station Road, Heme Bay, Kent, CT6 5QJ	Canterbury City Council	Area of allotment land lost: 24 sq m2 Area of replacement allotment land: not required as 24 sq m2 being lost has not actively been used at an allotment plot previously: existing plot holders and NSALG have no issue New use: placing of a sub station	24 sqm	09/03/12	16/05/12	Granted		
2012	Worthing Road, Littlehampton	Littlehampton Town Council	Disposal of allotments at Worthing Road, Littlehampton the land freed up will be used for development and road use. Provision for allotments lost and an additional 4,190 sqm of allotment land will be made available by the developer.	0.43 hectares	01/03/12	01/05/12	Granted		
2012	Land at Moorfield Road, Duxford	Duxford Parish Council	to grant a 25-year lease on a section of their allotment land at Moorfield Road, Duxford to the Whittlesford & Duxford Scout Group	0.175 hectares	27/02/12	21/05/12	Granted		

2012	Grove Avenue Chilwell Nottingham	Broxtowe BC	Land required by Tramlink Nottingham consortium as part of NET Phase 2 tramline linking Nottingham City with a new park & ride site at Totan	0.13 hectares	17/02/12	24/04/12	Granted	
2012	Riders Lane, Havant	Portsmouth City Council	Portsmouth City Council which to dispose of the Riders Lane allotment site, Ditcham Crescent, Leigh Park, Havant, Hampshire for residential development. Under Section 8 of the 1925 Allotments Act the council are requesting consent for the sale/change of use from the Secretary of State.	1.66 hectares	18/01/12	12/03/12	Granted	
2012	Blenheim Lane, Bulwell, Nottingham	Nottingham City Council	Appropriation of approximately 6.72 hectares of allotment land for use as a co-located Energy Park which will create over 250 jobs. No formal allotment holders will be displaced. Site has been vacant since 2002.	6.72 hectares	05/01/12	25/04/12	Granted	
2013	Rope Walk Allotments, Southwold	Southwold Town Council	Disposal of Allotment Land for development of affordable dwellings, however the application is for the disposal of 2 allotment plots on the site which will enable a barren strip of land that is not statutory allotment land to be developed.	New case: Details awaited from applicant	31/10/13	Ongoing	Ongoing	
2013	Wanstead Park Road Allotments	London Borough of Redbridge	Disposal of small amount of land for Cycle track	New case: Details awaited from applicant	25/10/13	Ongoing	Ongoing	
2013	Goodmayes Park Extension, Goodmayes, Essex	London Borough of Redbridge	Lease of 0.36 hectares of allotment land to Goodmayes Park Extension to a sports club	0.36 hectares	25/07/13	Ongoing	Ongoing	
2013	King George's Road Allotments	Bath and North East Somerset Council	New case: Details awaited from applicant	New case: Details awaited from applicant	14/10/13	Ongoing	Ongoing	
2013	East Minchinery	Oxford Council	Site currently disused. The site had approx 20 plots, the proposal is to split the site into allotments	0.79 hectares	07/09/13	Ongoing	Ongoing	

2013	Land at Watermead Way, Tottenham	Haringey Borough Council	(0.79ha), approx 10 plots and 42 affordable houses.	Partial disposal of Allotment land required by National Grid to maintain and repair cables and Pylons across the Allotment site	New case: Details awaited from applicant	23/09/13	Ongoing	Ongoing		
2013	Land adjoining Melville Road Allotments, Rainham	London Borough of Havering	Request to dispose of 1.53 acres (0.61 ha) of unused statutory allotment land for residential development.	Request to dispose of 1.53 acres (0.61 ha) of unused statutory allotment land for residential development.	0.61 hectares	18/09/13	Ongoing	Ongoing		
2013	Flaxmill Field, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs	Pinchbeck Parish Council	0.25 acres of statutory allotment land to be used for 14 unit affordable housing development by Pinchbeck Parish's Community Land Trust, funded by HCA.	0.25 acres of statutory allotment land to be used for 14 unit affordable housing development by Pinchbeck Parish's Community Land Trust, funded by HCA.	0.25	11/09/13	Ongoing	Ongoing		
2013	Land at Hawthorne Avenue, South Shields	South Tyneside Council	The proposed use is for residential development, The Site forms part of a wider residential development site at Cleadon Park, South Shields	The proposed use is for residential development, The Site forms part of a wider residential development site at Cleadon Park, South Shields	0.28 hectares	03/09/13	Ongoing	Ongoing		
2013	Blossoms Hill Farm, Henham, Essex	Henham Parish Council	Disposal of allotment land that has not been used as allotment land for the development of housing.	Disposal of allotment land that has not been used as allotment land for the development of housing.	0.78 hectares	16/08/13	03/09/13	Granted		Judicial Review – application being redetermined
2013	Farm Terrace Allotments, Watford	Watford Borough Council	Proposal to dispose of 2.63 hectares of allotments (128 plots) to support the Watford Health Campus, a major regeneration scheme.	Proposal to dispose of 2.63 hectares of allotments (128 plots) to support the Watford Health Campus, a major regeneration scheme.	2.63 hectares	15/07/13	04/07/13	Granted		
2013	Callowland Allotments, Watford	Watford Borough Council	Application for appropriation of fallow land adjacent to the Callowland allotment for the purpose of expanding neighbouring primary school.	Application for appropriation of fallow land adjacent to the Callowland allotment for the purpose of expanding neighbouring primary school.	0.75 hectares	12/03/13	04/07/13	Granted		
2013	Stapleton Allotments, Frenchay Park Road,	Bristol City Council	Application for consent to use statutory allotment land as part of the North Fringe to Hengrove Package Bus Rapid Transit Route.	Application for consent to use statutory allotment land as part of the North Fringe to Hengrove Package Bus Rapid Transit Route.	2.2 hectares	31/05/13	14/10/13	Granted		

	Stapleton, Bristol												
2013	Long Lane Allotment Fazakerley	Liverpool City Council		Disposal of the former allotment site on Long Lane L9 6BL Fazakerley to facilitate the development of the special needs school	4.7 hectares	07/05/13	06/08/13	Granted					
2013	Parcel of statutory allotment land, Pitstone	Pitstone Parish Council		Parish Council want to sell a disused parcel (1.5 acres) of statutory allotment land in village of Pitstone which has been used as recreation land since 1970s in order to continue this use. The Secretary of State previously consented to the sale of the other half of the plot of land on 12/02/12. No displaced plot holders as not been used as allotments since 1960's so number of allotments is an estimate based on replacement site figure of 69 quarter sized plots on 0.8 hectare site.	1.5 acres	24/04/13	30/07/13	Granted					
2013	Fletton High Street Allotments	Peterborough City Council		Amended request to sell 1.42 hectares of former allotment land. Has been out of use as allotment land since 1992 due to its poor drainage and condition generally so alternative site not necessary - there is also an excess of available plots in the city. Land is to be sold off for an affordable housing development.	1.42 hectares	13/02/13	05/03/13	Granted					
2013	Graeme Rd, Sutton	Sutton Parish Council		Consent sought to dispose of land to the rear of 4, 6 and 11a Graeme Rd, Sutton, to the property owners to use as 'garden allotments'.	0.175 hectares	16/01/13	18/06/13	Refused					
2013	Dawberry Fields Allotments.	Birmingham City Council		Request for the release of former allotment land totalling approx 2.21 acres and an additional strip of land	2.21 acres	06/02/13	05/03/13	Granted					

	Dawberry Fields Road, Kings Heath, B'ham		measuring approx 0.89 acres. Part of a proposal to dispose of an area of approximately 4.2 acres in total by means of an open market sale with outline planning consent for a housing development. An area of 1.3 acres has been earmarked for a new allotment development.							
2013	Wollaton Road Allotments, Beeston	Broxtowe Borough Council	Disposal by lease of 18sq.m of allotment land (plot 4) for the relocation of an electricity sub-station.	18 sqm	31/01/13	23/05/13	Granted			
2013	Church Street Wotton Road, Ashill, Thetford, Norfolk	Ashill Parish Council	Request to dispose of area of allotment site due to infestation, for residential development.	Not available	17/01/13	Ongoing	Ongoing			