

MAYOR OF LONDON

Gareth Bacon AM

Chairman
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA

Date: 27 April 2015.

Dear Gareth

Disposal of the former fire station site at Southwark

I know that London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority Members share my enthusiasm for a secondary school to be established on the former fire station site at Southwark. I am also aware that the proposal has the support not only of local parents but also of the Borough Leader and the Assembly Member for that area.

I am keen that preparations for the school's establishment be expedited. It is just over four months since I wrote to LFEPA setting out my plans for the Southwark site and I think it is appropriate now to move into contract stage, particularly in the light of the widespread support for the scheme and of the improved bid from Hadston.

The enclosed direction sets out my timetable. Members will note that the contract between LFEPA and Hadston will be subject to two factors: LFEPA confirming that best consideration has been achieved and the London Borough of Southwark awarding planning permission.

On best consideration, I am confident that the issue can be resolved swiftly and, so as to secure an independent view, I am directing LFEPA to engage a valuer which has not been engaged in the process up to this point. The Greater London Authority can help in this regard through the valuers it engages from a framework agreement held by Transport for London. One such valuer would be GL Hearn who I know have the capacity and expertise to conduct this exercise and to do so at short notice according to the required timescale. For that reason, GL Hearn has been named in the direction.

Finally, it would seem reasonable in the circumstances for the contract between LFEPA and Hadston to set out that Hadston's deposit would be returnable in the event that LFEPA is not able to confirm that best consideration has been achieved. Alternatively, the Hadston deposit could be payable once best consideration has been achieved rather than on exchange of contracts.

Yours ever,



Boris Johnson
Mayor of London

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