

BDC COUNCIL – 6 OCTOBER 2022

ITEM 6 - QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

Question 1

Mr Riley to Councillor Ward, Leader of the Council

At the last meeting you affirmed your belief that the Redevelopment of Corks Lane would break even or make a profit. The draft minutes of the Council's last full meeting record your saying that "Babergh has never said that the project might make a slight loss".

Yet, Report Number BCa/22/4 suggests that the range of outcomes would include losses.

Please tell us why you have ignored the loss making potential of this project when your own officers were flagging up that possibility.

Question 2

Mr Ferguson to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Assets and Investments

I understand that the Gipping Construction has been selected as Babergh's builder for the redevelopment of Corks Lane and that Gipping is a local company. Can the Cabinet Member for Finance, Assets and Investment tell me if Gipping were chosen through a competitive tender process, and if so, how many other companies bid for the work? Has the contract to Gipping been awarded on a firm/fixed price basis, and was it awarded to the lowest compliant bidder?

Finally, to fully understand the risks that Babergh potentially faces with completing this development on time and on cost, will you provide a copy of the Tender documents provided to bidders (not the responses as they are assumed to be "Commercial in Confidence"), and give me an indicative percentage of the differences in bid price between Gipping and the other compliant bidders?