



Access to Public Information Request

Date of receipt: 5th July 2019

Date of response: 2nd August 2019

Request regarding advice to HM Procureur in relation to L'Ancrese land ownership

Request for information:

The original request was delivered in hard copy by post. The text has been copied here with personal information removed:

'I write to you... to request access to the findings in a letter that ... of Island Archives, reported to HM Procureur... on the documents given to him on the history regarding The Proprietors of the Fouilliages, Les Joannets, L'Ancrese.

These documents were in the keeping of [the] President of Education, Sport and Culture since May 2018.

After personally speaking with [the President of ESC] at his home regarding the ownership of the Fouillages at Les Jaonnets, L'Ancrese, he informed me that earlier this year one of his committee members suggested that the States Archivist ... should have access to three files belonging to the above group which I delivered personally to Education, Sport and Culture on 17th May 2018.

The first file;

List of documents relating to the communal land on Clos Du Valle

The Years 1581 to 19th August 1771

The second file;

Large red file, Les Jaonet de la Commune de L'Ancrese

This includes copies of the original contracts 10th August 1771 in French, copies of the same contracts translated into English... It also contains the family trees of all ten parties concerned from present day back to 1771.

Third file;

Green file, List of present families from South in order going to the North 11th August 2016, which includes family contracts, family wills and patarge regarding family inheritance, it also includes the Contract for the playing fields at the Jaonnets, L'Ancrese Common, dated 9th March 1940. Documents from States of Guernsey Environment Department and finally States of Guernsey Tax on Real Property 2017 ... First item ... L'Ancrese Common, Vale – Land – (plot of land at Les Jaonnets).

I understand that the three files above are still with HM Procureur's office.

At a meeting of the Fouillage Owners of L'Ancrese Common Group held 2nd July 2019 to discuss a letter dated 21st June 2019 from [the] President of Education, Sport & Culture regarding the said lands at L'Ancrese, a member requested that we the Group have access to [the Island Archivist's] finding through the Code of Practice for Access to Information, being that we are the owners of the documents.'

Response:

The document requested is exempt under exception 2.5 (Law Enforcement and Legal Proceedings) of the Code of Practice for Access to Public Information. This exception applies to 'Information covered by legal professional privilege'.