



*Companies House*  
— for the record —

## From the Head of Policy and Planning

Mr J Moore  
By email

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Your Ref  
Our Ref FOI 151/10/09 - Internal Review  
Date 14 January 2010

Dear Mr Moore

Thank you for your email of 4 January asking for an internal review of your Freedom of Information request for a list of Local Authorities and their status as public companies, and of their compliance with sections 222(1), 222(4) and 222(5) of the Companies Act 1985.

I have reviewed all the documents relating to this request and the relevant guidance from the Information Commissioner. Based on the evidence I have concluded that the request has been dealt with correctly and I agree with the responses you received from Companies House. In summary Companies House does not hold the information you are seeking.

Companies House registers private and public limited companies and holds information about them for public access. If a local authority had registered as a limited company, the information would be available for you to see on our website ([www.companieshouse.gov.uk](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk)) using the Web Check search facility to search by the company name or number. I have checked the list of authorities identified in your email of 17 November. None of these are registered as UK limited companies and therefore references to compliance with the Companies Act are not applicable.

As Mrs Chainey has explained, other organisations may hold information about local authorities and identify them using their own system of classification. I can confirm that Companies House does not use the classification UC.

I appreciate that you may be disappointed with this decision and should inform you that you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Any appeal should be made in writing and the Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Helen Thewlis



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