Cheshire West & Chester Council

Sent by email to: request-261837-2bb81be6@whatdotheyknow.com Solutions Team (2nd Flr, HQ)
Cheshire West and Chester Council
4 Civic Way
Ellesmere Port
CH65 OBE

Tel: 0300 123 8 123

web: cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

our reference

your reference:

please ask for:

date:

2897961

Michelle du Bock

21 May 2015

Solutions Team

foiwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Dear Mr Ingram,

Re: Request for Information (RFI) - Internal Review Request

Requester: Mr S Ingram

RFI legislation: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Case reference: 2897961

Request date: 2 April 2015 (logged 7 April 2015)

Statutory due date: 5 May 2015 **Response date:** 14 May 2015

Internal review request date: 7 May 2015

Internal review request reason: Out of statutory time limit response

You made a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to Cheshire West and Chester Council for the following recorded information:

Dear Cheshire West and Chester Council,

Can you please answer the following:-

- 1, Provide details of any current councillor(s) (if any) who are, or who have been a Director and/or employee of the following;- Sustainable Blacon Ltd, Blacon Community Trust, Avenue Services (NW) Ltd, Vintage Blacon Ltd, BCT Regenesis Ltd, Well Blacon Ltd, Tranquility (Chester) Ltd.
- 2, Provide details (if applicable) of any current councillor(s) in relation to question 1, who has received Salary, Expenses, Directors Dividends, Hospitality, Management fee(s) in relation to the organisations in question 1. The Parent companies and any subsidiary companies should also be included, should remuneration be drawn from those area's, (if applicable).
- 3, Provide figures from councillors in relation to questions 1/2 respectively in relation to organisation and type of remuneration (if any).

Without Predjudice



As the Solutions Team Manager, responsible for the function of disclosure of information through the FOIA, EIR and DPA SAR, I am writing to confirm that your request for a review of your FOI response has now been carried out. The outcome of the review is that:

- 1. The Council did comply with its duty to provide the information requested.
- 2. Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) you were entitled to a response to your request within 20 working days.

You made your request on **2 April 2015**. A response was sent to you on **14 May 2015**. According to my investigation into your request for information (RFI) our case records show that, although your case was progressed within the twenty working day period, the response was not sent within the statutory timeframe. On this occasion the Council failed to respond by **7** working days and in doing so failed to comply with the statutory time limit starting with the day following the receipt of the request and therefore breached sections **1(1)(a)** and (b) of the FOIA.

I am writing to inform you of the result of the review and to apologise for the delay in the handling of your RFI. On this occasion the request you made needed to be checked with a number of officers and a final response agreed with our Legal team. Unfortunately we experienced some delay in the handling of your request due to staff availability.

The Solutions Team work hard to meet the statutory timeframe for all requests but are at times unable to comply for various reasons. As you have not expressed dissatisfaction with the response itself, but have solely complained on the grounds that the Council responded outside of the statutory timeframe, we can only apologise for the delay on this occasion. Unfortunately we cannot put right the fact that the response was late. We can give you our assurance that we take our customer's information rights seriously and make every endeavour to respond within time and as openly and transparently as possible.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the Review, or you remain dissatisfied with the way the Council conducted the original request or the Review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 0856 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Michelle du Bock

Information Governance Senior Manager