



[request-462937-4f511343@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-462937-4f511343@whatdotheyknow.com)

14 February 2018

Dear Ms Mullen

**Freedom of Information Request 573333 – Internal Review**

Thank you for your email of 13 February 2018 in which you requested that the City Council undertake an Internal Review of the above information request. For purposes of clarity and context, your original request and our accompanying responses are summarised below as follows –

*"In the Council meeting held in January 2018, Cllr Richard Kemp put the following written question to the Mayor:*

*"Would the Mayor please confirm that Mr Phil Halsall and Mr Ged Fitzgerald are council appointed directors of the Liverpool Arena Company. If this is the case would he inform the council why he considers this appropriate in the current legal circumstances?"*

*The Mayor's answer was as follows:*

*"Mr Halsall is not a director of Liverpool Arena and Convention Centre."*

*As Mayor Anderson will know the name - Liverpool Arena and Convention Centre was changed in June 2015 - to - ACC Liverpool Group Ltd. It is clear that it is the same company, and Mayor Anderson will be cognisant of that fact.*

*Please supply the following information:*

*[1] As Phil Halsall IS a director of ACC Liverpool Group Ltd please supply all the reasons why Mayor Anderson misinformed Council by stating that Mr Halsall was NOT a director of this company?*

*[2] Please supply all the reasons why Mayor Anderson failed to mention that Phil Halsall is also a director of ACC Liverpool Hotel Ltd when Cllr Kemp's question was obviously focused on the point that Phil Halsall is on police bail and was questioning the appropriateness of him being involved in LCC companies. This could be considered misinformation by omission"*

**Original Liverpool City Council Response –**

*Liverpool City Council would advise that –*

- 1. The response provided by Mayor Anderson OBE was entirely correct. Mr Halsall resigned from this position in November 2017.*
- 2. Councillor Kemp CBE asked a question and was provided with a factual response on this basis.*

*This concludes our response.*

## **Internal Review**

The basis upon which you have requested an Internal Review be undertaken was as follows

*"I am writing to request an internal review of Liverpool City Council's handling of my FOI request 'Phil Halsall - Misinformation by Mayor Anderson'.*

*[ GIVE DETAILS ABOUT YOUR COMPLAINT HERE ] In your FOI response there is no evidence whatsoever that Mr Halsall resigned his position as Director of the ACC Liverpool Group Ltd in November 2017. According to Companies House, the last person to resign from ACC was David McDonnell on the 31/03/17. This was received for electronic filing on the 17/05/17. If Mr Halsall had resigned in November 2017, even taking into account that it can take 6 weeks to appear in electronic format, then the information should have appeared in Companies House by the end of December 2017. The only information for Mr Halsall is CHO1 [ef] - Change of Particulars for Director, delivered 31/01/2018 - THIS IS NOT TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT. It seems that every director registered Change of Particulars information on the 1st Feb. 2018. Please investigate my Internal Review on the following grounds:*

*[1] The response to this FOI did not furnish any written evidence or a link to any electronic evidence that proves that Mr Philip Halsall resigned as director of ACC Liverpool Group in November 2017.....please supply the evidence that proves that Mr Halsall, or his representative, officially contacted Companies House in November 2017 to resign his position of director [copy of official electronic form/email with attachment] [2] In the same FOI I asked about ACC Liverpool Hotels Ltd in relation to Mr Halsall...this was ignored"*

## **Review Outcome**

Having reviewed our original response we can confirm Mr Halsall resigned his position in November 2017. This was a factually correct response with the resignation having been submitted to Companies House.

With regard to seeking evidence as to the resignation, this information is already in the public domain and reasonably accessible to you via Companies House – if you require clarification as to their processes, then we would advise you contact them directly. This element of your request for an Internal Review is therefore not upheld.

With regard to the second element of your review request, again Councillor Kemp CBE asked a question to which Mayor Anderson OBE provided a full and factually accurate response based on the question asked. In your original request, you asked why the response to Councillor Kemp CBE did not refer to other companies. Again, the question submitted by Councillor Kemp CBE was responded to in full on the basis of its content – this was advised to you in our original response. Therefore all elements of your Internal Review are not upheld.

This concludes our Internal Review process on this matter.

If you remain dissatisfied, you may also apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision about whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Liverpool City Council Information Team**  
Cunard Building, Water Street, Liverpool, L3 1DS  
E: [informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk)

The Information Commissioner's website is [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk) and the postal address and telephone numbers are:- Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113. Email – [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk) (they advise that their email is not secure)

I trust this information satisfies your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

*M Jones*

**M Jones**  
**Information Team**