

**C&CR FOI Investigation Team**

1st Floor Westfields  
C/O Municipal Buildings  
Earle Street  
CREWE  
CW1 2BJ

Mr Matthew Proctor

Date: 8 September 2017  
Our Reference: 1505333

Dear Mr Proctor

We have now had the opportunity to carry out an internal review of your Freedom of Information request above.

In your email of 10th August, you stated the following:

"Firstly, I requested information regarding the reason for their suspension. As per the Freedom of information act 2000, you have a duty to undertake a public interest test. You failed to do so. My request was worded, such that if my original request failed the public interest test, whether further information regarding external bodies could be ascertained. If you refused my first request, you would have to undertake a second public interest test on the second, less detailed request. In my opinion, it's difficult to interpret my request as not requiring a response beyond 'we won't divulge information without any reasoning.'"

It is considered that the Council's initial response provided you with the information you requested, including the reason for suspension, i.e. due to 'concerns over officer conduct'. Given that no information was withheld, no public interest test was required. In your final paragraph you stated: "If you cannot go into details, please could you outline, which if any, of the following agencies, are involved in the internal investigations, and if possible, to which suspended staff they concern....."

We did not respond to your final paragraph as we did provide the detail you requested.

If you are unhappy with the outcome of this internal review you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

[http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom\\_of\\_information.aspx](http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom_of_information.aspx)

Helpline on 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely,

Customer Relations and Compliance  
Cheshire East Council