

Enquiries to: Information Team
Our Ref: FOI604618



**Liverpool
City Council**

request-489672-3e24ca70@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Williams

Freedom of Information Request 604618

Thank you for your recent request received 19 June 2018. Your request was actioned under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in which you requested the following information –

{1.} I am wishing to ask what services Daniel Hughes has been paid for from the Mayor's office and from Liverpool city council. Has he a full-time appointment with the benefit of substantial allowances or part-time PR and why does the Mayor call him "The prince of Spin"

Daniel Hughes claims to have been the Mayors PR spin doctor who provides strategic media, PR and communications services to prominent individuals.

{2} Is Liverpool city council and the Mayor aware of his other dealing with a few developers in which some are behind these scandalous building schemes?

{3} Is the Mayor aware of Daniel Hughes business dealing with the Liverpool Echo and very close to a few reporters there, who has had substantial information and incriminating evidence with regards to a few developers and that this information may or could be passed to him?

{4} Could the Mayor please try to explain has his office or staff handed over any e-mails files or letters with regards to a few developers as this would be a catastrophic dangerous failure on the part of the council and may put the lives of whistle-blowers and others in danger, as the con men and solicitors would like to find them?

{5} Could the Liverpool city council and the Mayor please state for the record the following connections to:

Mr Kerry Tomlinson – Primesite -Developments Liverpool, and Mr Gary Howard -Fox Street village ltd?

It seems now that the same PR person {Daniel Hughes} is giving advice to, Mr Gary Howard on the {Fox Street Village, some investors would like to ask where the £30 million has gone?

Daniel Hughes claims to have inside connections to both the Echo, the Mayor, the labour party, at the same time work for these developers?

Has the Mayor of Liverpool held any talks or meeting with these two persons in any way over the past ten years?

{6} -Has both the Mayor and Cllr Ann O'Byrne besides talking to the NCA, talked or passed any information to, Christopher Pierce, fraud officer of the Merseyside police, with regards to NPG ltd Chinatown project and the meeting set up with Cllr Gary Millar and Peter McInnes in 2015?

{7} Did a number of Liverpool echo reporters call the Mayor of Liverpool and Cllr Gary Millar to inform them that BBC and CH4 may be doing a report on Chinatown and

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other building, The leak had first come from Cllr Richard Kemp to the Liverpool Echo.

{8} -Has the Mayor been updated on the news from the Echo?

If as the Liverpool Echo has said law enforcement officials are considering looking into investment fraud in Liverpool. liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/business/police-considering-investment-fraud-probe-14723708.”

Response:

Liverpool City Council would advise as follows –

1. With regard to the first element of this question, the City Council does not have any contractual or business relationship with Daniel Hughes. The remaining elements of this question are a statement and not a valid question under the Freedom of Information Act.
2. This is not a valid question under the Freedom of Information Act.
3. This is not a valid question under the Freedom of Information Act.
4. This is a statement and not a valid question under the Freedom of Information Act.
5. With regard to the first element of your request, the organisations and companies which you name are private businesses. It is routine practice for the Mayor, Councillors and Officers to have contact with key stakeholders on matters of interest when relevant to do so, however regeneration activities within the city are managed by Officers in the Regeneration Directorate in partnership with relevant organisations. The remaining elements of this point of your request are a statement not a valid question under the Freedom of Information Act.
6. It is inappropriate for Liverpool City Council to comment on any investigations by external agencies. With regard to the comments you make with regard to a ‘meeting’ having been ‘set up’, this was not a meeting in the terms you seek to describe. Councillor Millar was one of many who attended a consultation exercise in respect of the New Chinatown scheme as a consultee on behalf of Liverpool City Council which took place with leaders of the Chinese community at a restaurant in Nelson Street in July 2015. The purpose of the consultation exercise was to preview draft initial ideas for what was later to become New Chinatown and which took place many months before any planning applications had been considered or approved.
7. The majority of this ‘question’ is considered to be a statement and as such is not a valid request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.
8. The majority of this ‘question’ is considered to be a statement and as such is not a valid request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

This concludes our response.

The City Council will consider appeals, referrals or complaints in respect of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 and you must submit these in writing to Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk within 28 days of receiving your response.

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The matter will be dealt with by an officer who was not previously involved with the response and we will look to provide a response within 40 days. 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. The Information Commissioner's website is 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 (they advise that their email is not secure)

I trust this information satisfies your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

A Lewis

Angela Lewis
Information Team