



[request-587629-10afa72f@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-587629-10afa72f@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Ms Mullen

### **Freedom of Information Request 722965 – Internal Review**

Thank you for your email in which you requested that the City Council undertake an Internal Review of the above information request. We apologise for the delay and appreciate your understanding whilst clarification was sought from the relevant Service Areas as regards the matters raised within both your original request and your request for a review. For purposes of clarity and context, your original request and our accompanying responses are summarised below as follows –

*“Pumpfields Regeneration Company [or whichever company 'owns' the Metalworks at the present moment [.60 Vauxhall Rd, Liverpool L3 6DL] returned to Planning in 2019 in order to get planning permission to add two more stories to the development. Could you please supply the following information:*

*[1] The date when the Metalworks development went back to planning in 2019*

*[2] A link to the Planning meeting when the Metalworks requested a two story addition to the development application...or any other alteration/addition”*

### **Original Liverpool City Council Response –**

*Liverpool City Council would advise that we are not in receipt of any amended scheme during 2019. The latest application of relevance is presently awaiting signature and completion of the associated Section 106 Agreement. Details of that Application are as follows –*

*18F/0216 - To demolish buildings and erect two no. linked blocks (13 and 15 storeys) comprising 319 no. apartments, 475sq.m of commercial floorspace (Use Classes A1, A2, A3, A5 and B1) together with 66 no. car parking spaces and associated access, landscaping and external works. The application was heard by committee on the 28/8/2018 however the decision has not yet been issued as this is contingent on completion of the Section 106 Agreement as referenced above.*

*Minutes for the Planning Committee are in the public domain and may be accessed online at –*

*<http://councillors.liverpool.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=307&MId=16795>*

*Details of Planning Applications are in the public domain and may be accessed using the Planning Explorer facility on our website at –*

*<http://northgate.liverpool.gov.uk/PlanningExplorer17/GeneralSearch.aspx>*

### **Internal Review**

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

*WhatDoTheyKnow (System wrote):  
Dear Liverpool City Council,*

*Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.*

*I am writing to request an internal review of Liverpool City Council's handling of my FOI request 'The Metalworks'.*

*[ GIVE DETAILS ABOUT YOUR COMPLAINT HERE ]*

*<https://www.business-live.co.uk/economic-development/stalled-319-home-metalworks-scheme-16521060>*

*According to Business Live in an interview with Simon Clarke/ Acentus Real Estate: The Metalworks*

*QUOTE - "We launched the scheme in April 2017. We then halted sales last year, so members of the planning committee could come onto the council [following changes to committees during that year's Local Elections]. They wanted to revise many schemes in Liverpool, of which the Metalworks was one. He said developers took advantage of the revised process to get an extra two floors, meaning it expanded in size."*

*Mr Clarke stated that this change did not go through Planning, but has been passed by LCC*

*This seems to be completely at odds with the content of the response to this FOI*

*[1] Is this misinformation by Mr Simon Clarke?*

*[2] Did LCC, in fact, 'revise many scheme' after the 2018 elections?*

*[3] If this is the case, why didn't these development revisions go through Planning?*

### Review Outcome

With regard to the content of your request for review, these constitute additional questions. Notwithstanding this, and in reviewing our response, our comments are as follows –

1. This is an expression of third party personal opinion. The role of Local Planning Authority including that of members of the Planning Committee are clearly defined within the Town & Country Planning Acts, Local Government Acts and the City Council Constitution. All applications are considered by Committee Members in the context of local UDP and National Planning Policy Framework considerations.
2. The City Council does not revise third party schemes as these are not in our control, management or ownership. If the owner of a third party site wishes to make changes to an approved or in process application then they must apply to the Local Planning Authority and such requests are considered in accordance with relevant legislative processes.
3. The City Council in its capacity as Local Planning Authority can only consider Applications which are submitted for consideration. In the event that an individual or agency undertakes a development or revision without relevant permission then such actions may be subject to enforcement actions.

In terms of our original response, these have been considered in the context of both your original questions as well as the additional questions set out within your review request. Our original response addresses the points raised initially in full and as such remains applicable.

Your request for a review is therefore 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.

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*

**Information Team**