

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Request for details of complainant.

Date Released: 11 September 2008

Summary of request: The enquirer asked for details of a complainant.

Information released:

I should explain that Companies House receive a large number of letters each year enquiring whether companies are in breach of the Companies Act and as such we are obliged to investigate every case. If our investigations conclude that there has not been a breach of the legislation then we inform all parties concerned and no further action is taken. If on the other hand, the complaint proves to be justified then we endeavour to resolve the matter so that the company and its officers comply with their legal obligations under the Companies Acts.

I am sure you will appreciate that it would be impossible for Companies House to monitor all of the 2.3million live companies registered with us so information received from the public is classed as a good source of information and an extremely useful aid in policing the Companies Act. As such we treat the source of all such correspondence in the strictest confidence and I must therefore refuse your request to know details of this complaint in this particular instance. Your request has been refused as it is exempt information under section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it is information that was provided in confidence and disclosure may constitute an actionable breach against Companies House.