

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Request for the database underpinning the Companies House Beta service

Date Released: 28 July 2015

Summary of request: The enquirer requested for the database underpinning the Companies House Beta service

Information Released

You asked to be provided with:

1) A partial printout of the database underpinning the Companies House (CH) Beta service. For every company in the database, please provide me with the following information: company number; company name; registered office address; date of incorporation; date of dissolution (or N/A where company is still active); SIC code.

- My preference would be for this information to be provided in tab-delimited spreadsheet format, with each of the information types I have listed above being used as column headers. I appreciate this may not be possible however; if so, please contact me and let me know what kind of export would be possible.

- Where a company's name, registered office address or SIC code has changed, please just provide the current name, address or SIC code.

Your request initially asks for a partial printout of the database underpinning the CH Beta Service but I am not sure what you mean by this? Please would you clarify this part of your request so that I can look into whether this particular information is held or can be provided to you.

However, the remainder of your request asks for the details of every company in our database/CH BetaService. If I have interpreted this aspect of your request correctly, this information is available to you via the CH Public register and our Products and Services.

As it is reasonably accessible to you, whether free of charge or on payment of a fee, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I must therefore refuse to disclose the information to you. More information on this exemption can be found on the Information Commissioners website <https://ico.org.uk/>

The CH 'free company data product' provides a snapshot from the public register in CSV format:

http://download.companieshouse.gov.uk/en_output.html

I believe that this data will answer your request. The data also contains a link to Uniform Resource Identifiers

(URI) for each company, which provides the realtime data available:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house/about/about-our-services#uri-info>

You may also be interested in our new API, which the new CH Beta service uses. More details can be found at our developer hub:

<https://developer.companieshouse.gov.uk/api/docs/>

In addition, there is the Change of Name and Dissolved Annual DVD Rom which costs £30. This provides company details for any companies that have been dissolved or changed their names over the last 20 years.

Further information can be found via the following link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house/about/about-our-services#dvd-con>