



The Insolvency
Service

Information Rights Team

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www.gov.uk/insolvency-service

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: FOI24/25-162
Date: 13 March 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2025 in which you requested from the Insolvency Service (the agency):

"...During that conversation, it was mentioned that the Insolvency Service had recommended more stringent checks on voluntary dissolutions to Companies House, particularly to prevent companies from dissolving while still owing wages to former employees.

I would kindly like to request further information regarding these recommendations, specifically:

- 1. The nature of the recommendations made by the Insolvency Service to Companies House.*
- 2. The date and context in which these recommendations were provided.*
- 3. Whether the Insolvency Service has any record of similar cases where companies have been dissolved while still having outstanding obligations to employees."*

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

In regard to points one and two of your request, the agency does not hold the information you have requested.

Please note FOIA only applies to recorded information, it does not require public authorities to create information in order to answer a question. However, it may be helpful to note the agency has not made any recommendations to Companies House. Companies House does have greater obligations to do more checks, but these come from recent new legislation and

cover a wide range of activities relating to verification of directors identity and control and ownership of companies – not about CVLs specifically.

Question 3 - Whether the Insolvency Service has any record of similar cases where companies have been dissolved while still having outstanding obligations to employees

YEAR	Number of Dissolved / Closed / Unknown Cases
2020-2021	69
2021-2022	73
2022-2023	105
2023-2024	122
2024-2025*	90
TOTAL	459

*Refers to cases set up to the end of February.

Please note: The cases shown above are where claims have been made against the solvent company so include those that have outstanding financial obligations to creditors/employees.

Complaints

If you are not satisfied with the response we have provided you and would like us to reconsider our decision by way of an internal review (IR), please contact our Information Rights team within 40 working days of this letter at foi@insolvency.gov.uk or by post at:

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service
3rd Floor
Cannon House
18 Priory Queensway
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United Kingdom

You also have the right to contact the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) if you wish for them to investigate any complaint you may have regarding our handling of your request. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect an IR to have been completed in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

**Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service**

The Department for Business and Trade, Official receivers and the Adjudicator are Data Controllers in respect of personal data processed by the Insolvency Service. For the details about how personal data is processed by the agency, please see the full Insolvency Service Personal Information Charter here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service/about/personal-information-charter>