



## REQUEST 17311

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding Councillor Chris Ready's role in conducting internal investigations:

1. What qualifications, professional training, or certifications does Councillor Chris Ready hold that are relevant to conducting internal investigations within Wigan Council?
2. What specific policies, procedures, or guidelines govern the appointment of councillors to lead or conduct internal investigations within the council?
3. On what basis was Councillor Chris Ready selected to investigate claims related to the dismissal of AI and AI from the Haigh Hall project?
4. Was any independent oversight, external review, or guidance provided to ensure impartiality and transparency during this investigation?
5. How is it deemed appropriate for a councillor who is actively leading on Haigh Hall to investigate matters directly related to the Haigh Hall project? Does this not constitute a conflict of interest akin to "marking one's own homework"?

## RESPONSE

Reference is made to the Council meeting and Cllr Ready's comments which can be found here: [Wigan Full Council Meeting - 27th November 2024](#)

It should be noted that decisions relating to officers and the non-renewal of contracts is not an issue for members.

Cllr Ready did not undertake a formal investigation and has no power to do so. Instead, he made enquiries of the officers dealing with the matter, following allegations made by the former contractors that the decision was politically motivated.

Councillors do not undertake investigations.

See 1 and 2.

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