

## **Information Released under Freedom of Information Act**

**Subject:** Information regarding Companies House Complaints Adjudicator

**Date Released:** 17 November 2008

**Summary of request:** The enquirer has requested information regarding Companies House Complaints Adjudicator

### **Information released:**

Please note that Mr W H Thomas retired as Companies House complaints adjudicator on 18 June 2007.

1. Who appoints this role, for what duration and remuneration?

The current contract for Dame Elizabeth Neville DBE QPM to provide independent adjudication services for Companies House commenced on 1st February 2008. Dame Elizabeth was appointed by the Registrar of Companies and her contract will expire on 31 March 2010.

I am unable to disclose Dame Elizabeth's remuneration because the information is exempt under section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as disclosure would be likely to prejudice Companies House's commercial interests. Details of this legislation, the exemptions and the Code of Practice can be found at the following website <http://www.justice.gov.uk/>

2. Selection criteria for the appointment?

3. Reason/s why the current incumbent was selected over others?

Dame Elizabeth Neville was selected on the basis of her track record from other government departments and agencies where she performs a similar role on appeals and complaints. Dame Elizabeth also sits on Police Appeals Tribunals, is a non executive Director of the Serious Fraud Office and a member of the Civil Nuclear Police Authority which provided further expertise to provide this function for Companies House.

4. What if any support staff does s/he have; and or who has authority to act on his / her behalf?

Companies House does not appoint support staff for Dame Elizabeth. She is responsible for providing her own support staff. I am not quite sure what you mean by 'who has authority to act on his/her behalf', but I assume you mean who can perform her role as adjudicator for Companies House in her absence. As far as I am aware no-one has authority to act on her behalf and no-one has done so since her appointment.

5. When is the current W H Thomas due to leave his post?

As stated in the second paragraph, W H Thomas retired as adjudicator.