[redacted]

From: FOI
Sent: 08 June 2021 13:35
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 067-21 - Response

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-067-21

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 9 May 2021 and received by the Commission on 10 May 2021.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

I request a copy of the party consitution of Independent Green Voice (PP293) that was required for the party's registration, and I also request the party's current phone number, if any exists. I also request any previous addresses the party has registered as its headquarters. I finally, also request all correspondence between the party and the Electoral Commission.

On 11 May 2021, following an email from us, you provided the following clarification of your request:

The correspondence within the last year of today's date would be perfect.

Our response is as follows:

We hold some of the information you have requested.

We do not hold a copy of the party's constitution. While the Commission's current policy is to retain a constitution provided by political parties registered with us, this has not always been the case. We suggest that you contact the party directly for your request.

Independent Green Voice was registered as a political party in March 2003.

The correspondence we are releasing between the Electoral Commission and the party, falls within the timeframe 11 May 2020 – 11 May 2021. To access these documents you will need to use our secure document-sharing system, Objective Connect.

To access your documents:

You will receive an 'Invitation to Objective Connect Email Notification' (sent to the inbox of [redacted]). This notification will contain a link to enable you to start accessing your information. Please find below details on how to access the specific area we have set up for your documents.

1. Click on the link in the email.

2. You will be prompted to set up your username and password. Your username will be your email address, and your password can be whatever you like.
3. With your username and password, enter both details at the login screen and click 'login'.
4. You will now see your personal page, which will show the Share 'FOI – 067-21'
5. By clicking on the name of the share, you will find your documents.
6. You may view any of these documents
7. In addition you may download a copy to your personal computer by selecting the 'download' option and then 'save'.

This service will be closed one month from our response date, this is the **8 July 2021, at 5pm.**

We are not able to comply fully with your request, however, for the following reason:

Exemption under section 40(2):

Information is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) where release of the information would breach one of the data protection principles in the GDPR. One of the principles states that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully.

Some of the information contained in the requested information falls within the description of personal data because the information relates directly to an identifiable living individual. Disclosure of this information would breach the first data protection principle, which states the information must be processed fairly and lawfully. Any personal data that is not already in the public domain has been redacted.

This includes registered phone numbers of the party and previous registered headquarters addresses.

Under this provision, we have also redacted the names of Commission staff below Head level. This is because those members of staff have a reasonable expectation that their personal details will not be made public.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request. In some circumstances we cannot responsibly release requested information, and we ask for your understanding in this regard.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-request.

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

The Electoral Commission

electoralcommission.org.uk

E-mail

Independent Green...

Sent Date 21/05/2020 17:13

E-mail

From Partyreg **Cc**

To Independent Green Voice (GB) **Bcc**

Subject Independent Green Voice - annual renewal CCM:0288029

Dear Alistair,

Thank you for delivering the party's confirmation of registered details, which was received on 20 March 2020 and considered complete and compliant with the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA) on 20 March.

We have now processed that confirmation.

The party's next confirmation of registered details is due to be delivered by 31 October 2020. Should the party change its financial year end or its total income or expenditure exceeds £250,000 in a financial year, then this deadline will change.

As the treasurer you are responsible in law for confirming your party's details are correct by the deadline each year. We suggest strongly that you set yourself a reminder to ensure you meet this deadline.

Changes throughout the year

Throughout the year, you must also notify us if your party's registered details become incorrect. You must notify us within 14 days of changes to the named leader, treasurer, nominating officer, and campaigns officer or additional officer (if applicable) for the party if caused by the death or termination of the appointment of that officer. For other changes, such as changes to officer home addresses or the party's headquarters address, you must notify us within 28 days. Failing to update the party's registered details

where they are not correct by the relevant deadline is a contravention of PPERA which may result in a fine. You can read our Enforcement Policy here.

Failing to update the party's registered details where they are not correct by the relevant deadline is a contravention of PPERA which may result in a fine. The required forms for changing your party's registered details are available in the resources section of our guidance on maintaining party details.

If you need more information view our guidance on registering and maintaining a party or contact us using the details below.

-

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

Regarding	2020-03-20-Independent Green Voice-RP8
Owner	[redacted]
Keywords	
Duration	**Priority** Normal
Due	
Category	**Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category	**PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
No E-Mail Attachment records are available in this view.	

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Status Reason Sent

[redacted]

E-mail

RE: Independent Gre...

Sent Date 17/11/2020 10:44

E-mail

From Partyreg **Cc**

To Alistair McConnachie; Independent Green Voice (GB) **Bcc**

Subject RE: Independent Green Voice - HQ address CCM:0288349

Dear Alistair,

Thank you for your application to change the registered details for your party, which we received on 16 November 2020. We have now processed the following changes:

Previous HQ address	Updated HQ address
[redacted]	Alistair McConnachie Clyde Offices, 2nd Floor 48 West George Street Glasgow Lanarkshire G2 1BP

We have also removed your registered fax number.

Please notify us immediately if the amended details do not appear as you had intended.

You must notify us within 14 days of changes to the named leader, treasurer, nominating officer, and campaigns officer or additional officer (if applicable) for the party if caused by the death or termination of the appointment of that officer. For other changes, such as changes to officer home addresses or the party's headquarters address, you must notify us within 28 days. Failing to update the party's registered details where they are not correct by the relevant deadline is a contravention of PPERA which may result in a fine. You can read our Enforcement Policy here.

Kind regards

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission

[redacted] [redacted]

electoralcommission.org.uk

From: Partyreg
Sent: 16 November 2020 16:23
To: 'Alistair McConnachie' [redacted]
Subject: RE: Independent Green Voice - HQ address CCM:0288349

Dear Alistair McConnachie,

Thank you for your emails and apologies for the delay in responding.

You currently have changes pending in our PEF Online system but they are yet to be authorised and submitted by you.

After logging into PEF Online, if you are satisfied with the details you have input, navigate to the "Declarations" tab. Choose to "authorise online", then navigate to the "Submit" tab and submit your application.

Once these steps have been taken, the changes can be processed.

The publication of a party's headquarters address is set out in our guidance on registering a political party, and in the explanatory notes of RP1 form to register a political party.

However, we apologise for the oversight that this statement is not included in our RP3 form, which is used to register a change of HQ address. I have passed this feedback onto our guidance team, and will ensure that the form in question is updated as soon as possible.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: Alistair McConnachie [redacted]
Sent: 16 November 2020 13:47
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Independent Green Voice - HQ address CCM:0288349

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

[redacted]

Yours
Alistair

From: Alistair McConnachie [redacted]
Sent: 09 November 2020 14:24
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Independent Green Voice - HQ address CCM:0288349

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for this. I've used the access details which you sent me, to establish a PEF account for myself.

I've changed the official "HQ" address and the Correspondence address to a mail-box address which I have in the centre of town.

Thanks for your help.

Best wishes

Alistair

On 09/11/2020 13:54, Partyreg wrote:

> Dear Alistair McConnachie,
>
> Thank you for your email.
>
> The law requires that the Commission publish the registered particulars of a political party. One of these particulars is its HQ address.

[redacted]

A party must register an HQ address with the Commission. This must be either, the HQ of the party, or where the party does not have an HQ, an address to which it can receive correspondence. At any time you can apply to change your HQ address or address to which the party can receive correspondence. A number of parties set up PO boxes for this purpose.

You make a notification to us to change this using our RP3 form. Please not that we have restricted access to our office facilities and it likely to cause a significant delay in receiving any notification.

I note that you do not have a PEF Online account, which would allow you to make these changes online and would likely avoid significant delays. I have now set up an account for you in our system. You will receive an automated email from our system to create login details. If you have any questions about making this change via our system please contact us.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 November 2020 11:49
To: Public Info <Info@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: other

Submitted on 9 November 2020

Submitted values are:

Name

First name
Alistair

Last name
McConnachie

Your email
[redacted]

Your telephone number
[redacted]

Your postcode

[redacted]

[redacted]

Your region/country
Scotland

I am...
a member of a political party

What are you contacting us about?
other

Your question
Dear Electoral Commission

I'm the leader of Independent Green Voice [redacted]

[redacted]

Best wishes
Alistair

Regarding	2020-11-09 Independent Green Voice - RP3
Owner	[redacted]
Keywords	
Duration	**Priority** Normal
Due	
Category	**Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category	**PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
No E-Mail Attachment records are available in this view.	

0 - 0 of 0 (0 selected) Page 1

[redacted]

Status Reason	**Sent**

[redacted]

E-mail

RE: Independent Gre...

Sent Date 27/01/2021 15:31

E-mail

From Partyreg **Cc** [redacted]

To Alistair McConnachie; Independent Green Voice (GB) **Bcc**

Subject RE: Independent Green Voice - receipt of application CCM:0389430

Dear Alistair,

Thank you for your response and for confirming David Brown's email address. A response to this email from David confirming the details set out in my email from yesterday will be sufficient for us to proceed.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: Alistair McConnachie [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2021 15:07
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Independent Green Voice - receipt of application CCM:0389430

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for getting back to us.

David Brown is presently signing a hard-copy form (the one which was generated after I submitted the application) last week. He is sending this document (which has also been signed by me) to the Electoral Commission, and it will arrive at your offices by the end of this week.

However, as per your info below, I understand that you are not able to receive post at this time.

David Brown's email is:

[redacted]

Do you contact him, or do I ask him to contact you?

Best wishes

Alistair

[redacted]

On 26/01/2021 11:43, Partyreg wrote:

Dear Alistair McConnachie,

We confirm receipt of your application to register a new emblem and replace a description and your payment of £25 on 21 January 2021.

Identity mark type	Old	New
Emblem		image001.png
Description	Independent Green Voice - Organics, Localism, Democracy	Independent Green Voice - Organic, Local, Democratic

We have conducted an initial check of the application and have identified matters that require your attention. We will put your application on hold until 02 February 2021 so that you can, if you wish, address the matters that have been raised below.

Applying ahead of the 2021 May Polls

If you would like to:
register a new political party;
amend a name for an existing party;
amend or add an emblem; or
add a description
to be included on ballot papers for the elections taking place on 6 May 2021, please ensure that your application is completed by Sunday 31 January 2021.

In order to contest each type of election, new parties must be registered with us by a certain date. You can find out more information about when these dates are on our website.

Matters for consideration

It is your responsibility to determine the details of your application and to ensure that it complies with the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

The following matters were identified on an initial check of your application. You now have an opportunity to address them before the application is assessed in full.

Should the application proceed to a full assessment against the PPERA requirements, further matters may be identified. Until a final decision is taken on your application, we cannot confirm whether or not it will be successful.

Signatures

An application to change a party's identity marks must be signed by the party's registered treasurer, leader, and nominating officer, plus an additional officer if the same person holds all three positions.

David Brown is required to sign the application, but does not have an account on PEF Online.

We would be grateful if you could please confirm David Brown's email address so that he can authorise the application. Once you confirm his correct email address, it will be sufficient for him to confirm the details of the application via email.

Please be aware that our office is currently closed, and all staff are working remotely. We are not able to receive post at this time.

Unless we have authorisation from David Brown, the application cannot proceed.

Next steps

Should you wish to amend your application please do so as soon as possible and no later than 02 February 2021.

Any changes to the application must be authorised by all party officers. After that date, we will review your application and any further material provided by you. If your application is incomplete, it may be refused at this point.

Once we proceed to assess your application, we will publish the details of your application shortly on our 'Current Applications' page of our website for public comment.

We will then proceed to assess your application and put it to our internal Approvals Board. This Board is chaired by the Director Regulation Counsel who takes the final decision on an application.

We aim to process an application within approximately six weeks of receiving a complete and compliant application. We do not currently consider your application to be complete and compliant.

Please get in touch if you have any further queries about this message. You can find guidance in relation to registering and maintaining a party on our website here.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

Regarding 2021-01-21 - Independent Green Voice - RP2D&E

Owner [redacted]

Keywords

Duration **Priority** Normal

Due

Category **Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category **PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
image001.png	2,814

1 - 1 of 1 (0 selected) Page 1

Status Reason Sent

[redacted]

E-mail

RE: Re. Independent...

Sent Date 04/02/2021 13:33

E-mail

From	Partyreg	**Cc**	Alistair McConnachie; Independent Green Voice (GB)
To	[redacted]	**Bcc**	

Subject RE: Re. Independent Green Voice (IGV) - confirmatory email of new emblem and change of Part description - rom David Brown CCM:0389440

Dear David,

Thank you for confirming your authorisation of the changes to your party's details. I have also added your email address to our PEF Online system.

We will now assess your application against the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA). At this point we cannot confirm whether or not the application will be approved.

Next steps

We will publish the details of your application shortly on our 'Current Applications' page of our website for public comment.

The Registration Team will assess your application against the PPERA requirements and put it to our internal Approvals Board. This Board is chaired by the Director of Regulation who takes the final decision on an application.

We aim to process applications as quickly as possible, and we will notify you once we have made a decision. We may write to you during the assessment process seeking further information from you about the application.

Otherwise, we will contact you again once we have made a decision. In the meantime, you can find guidance in relation to registering and maintaining a party on our website.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: David Brown [redacted]
Sent: 01 February 2021 01:13
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: Re. Independent Green Voice (IGV) - confirmatory email of new emblem and change of Part description - rom David Brown

[redacted]

I, David Brown, last week, added my signature to a form signed by Alistair Mcconnachie (the IGV Party Leader), which I then posted on to the Electoral Commission.
The form sent to the Commission notifies that body of a new and extra IGV Party emblem and a change in one of the Party's descriptions. As a listed official for IGV, I hereby notify the Commission, additionally through this email, of my agreement with both of these amendments, as shown and stated on the signed form.

Yours Faithfully,
David Brown.

Regarding	2021-01-21 - Independent Green Voice - RP2D&E
Owner	[redacted]
Keywords	
Duration	**Priority** Normal
Due	
Category	**Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category	**PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
No E-Mail Attachment records are available in this view.	

0 - 0 of 0 (0 selected) Page 1

Status Reason Sent

[redacted]

From: Partyreg
Sent: 23 March 2021 13:50
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Independent Green Voice - application decision CCM:0389484

Dear Alistair McConnachie,

Approval of changes to registered details

I write to inform you that we have approved your application to change the registered details for your party. These changes are in effect as of 23 March 2021. Please allow a day for any changes to appear on the party's entry on the register.

Our full decision on your application is outlined in this message.

Contact us immediately if any of the details outlined below or in the party's entry on the register are incorrect or are not what the party intended.

Identity mark(s) that have been approved

We have approved the following identity marks which will now be included in the party's entry on the register.

	Identity mark
Description(s)	Independent Green Voice - Organic, Local, Democratic
Emblem(s)	

Candidates standing for the party may use these identity marks on ballot papers at relevant elections in the UK.

We have also removed the description "Independent Green Voice - Organics, Localism, Democracy" as also outlined in your application.

Our duty to maintain the register

We have a duty under PPERA to maintain the registers of political parties as well as to monitor, and take all reasonable steps to secure, compliance with the rules for political parties set out in PPERA.

In accordance with that duty we may conduct reviews of the registers to determine whether identity marks still meet the statutory tests. This could mean that in future if we may consider that your identity marks no longer meet the statutory tests and so will remove them from the register.

We may also review the party's registered details should other circumstances change, such as details of the party's registered officers or the party's registered name. Additionally, should it come to our attention that the party is not operating in accordance with its constitution or financial scheme this may also give rise to such a review. The party will normally be advised of any such review.

Please get in touch if you have any further queries about this message. You can find guidance in relation to registering and maintaining a party on our website here.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

E-mail

Independent Green...

Sent Date 16/04/2021 08:53

E-mail

From [redacted] **Cc**

To Alistair McConnachie; Independent Green Voice (GB) **Bcc**

Subject Independent Green Voice - 2020 Statement of Accounts due by 30 April 2021 CCM:0112386

image003.png

Dear Party Treasurer,

2020 Statement of Accounts due by 30 April 2021

Parties with a financial year end date of 31 December, whose income and expenditure are below £250,000, must submit their 2020 statement of accounts to the Electoral Commission by 30 April 2021.

If your party's gross income or total expenditure was over £250,000. You must submit your audited statement of accounts by 07 July 2021.

Please read the attached factsheet, which contains all the information you need in order to submit your annual statement of accounts. Further guidance is available on the Electoral Commission website.

It is a legal requirement to submit accounts on time. If you submit your accounts late, you may be subject to sanctions including a penalty of at least £200.

If you have any queries regarding your party's 2020 annual statement of accounts please contact the Political Finance, and Regulation advice line on 0333 103 1928 or email pef@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Annual Confirmation of registered details

In order to remain registered, every year you must confirm that your party's registered details are correct and pay a £25 fee.

As party treasurer, it is your responsibility to complete your party's renewal by the deadline. The deadline is 6 months after the date you must submit your accounts to us.
If you have not done so already this year, you can complete your renewal either on PEF Online, or by completing and returning an RP8 form along with a cheque or postal order for £25 made payable to the Electoral Commission.
If your registered details have changed then you must also submit an application to update these.
If we do not receive a complete and compliant confirmation by your party's deadline, your party will be deregistered.
Please get in touch with our Registration team if you have any further questions.

Regarding

Owner [redacted]

Keywords

Duration **Priority** **Normal**

Due

Category **Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category **PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
image003.png	24,588
SOA Fact Sheet.pdf	157,914

1 - 2 of 2 (0 selected) Page 1

Status Reason Sent

E-mail

Second Reminder -...

Sent Date 23/04/2021 13:03

E-mail

From The Electoral Commission **Cc**

To [redacted] **Bcc** [redacted]

Subject Second Reminder - 2020 Statement of Accounts due by 30 April 2021 CCM:0112406

image002.png

Dear Party Treasurer

2020 Statement of Accounts due by 30 April 2021

Parties with a financial year end date of 31 December, whose income and expenditure are below £250,000, must submit their 2020 statement of accounts to the Electoral Commission by 30 April 2021.

If your party's gross income or total expenditure was over £250,000. You must submit your audited statement of accounts by 07 July 2021.

Please read the attached factsheet, which contains all the information you need in order to submit your annual statement of accounts. Further guidance is available on the Electoral Commission website.

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If you have any queries regarding your party's 2020 annual statement of accounts please contact the Political Finance, and Regulation advice line on 0333 103 1928 or email pef@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Annual Confirmation of registered details

In order to remain registered, every year you must confirm that your party's registered details are correct and pay a £25 fee.

As party treasurer, it is your responsibility to complete your party's renewal by the deadline. The deadline is 6 months after the date you must submit your accounts to us.
If you have not done so already this year, you can complete your renewal either on PEF Online, or by completing and returning an RP8 form along with a cheque or postal order for £25 made payable to the Electoral Commission.
If your registered details have changed then you must also submit an application to update these.
If we do not receive a complete and compliant confirmation by your party's deadline, your party will be deregistered.
Please get in touch with our Registration team if you have any further questions.

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
[redacted]
electoralcommission.org.uk

Regarding

Owner [redacted]

Keywords

Duration **Priority** Normal

Due

Category **Sub-Category**

PEF Directorate Categories

PEF Parent Category **PEF Category**

Attachments

E-Mail Attachments **Activity Attachment Associated View**

File Name	File Size (Bytes)
image002.png	24,588
SOA Fact Sheet.pdf	157,914

1 - 2 of 2 (0 selected) Page 1

Status Reason Sent