[redacted]

From: FOI
Sent: 07 December 2023 14:34
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 164-23 - Response
Attachments: REDACTED - De-registration correspondence with TIGFC from Dec'19 to Jul'20.pdf

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-164-23

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 10 November 2023.

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 in shown below followed by our response.

Please can you disclose, preferably by PDF, any correspondence relating to the deregistration/process for deregistratiion of The Independent Group for Change whether from the Party or from the Commission to the Party. Time period will be from 19 December 2019 until 23 July 2020 inclusive.
Thank you.

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

Please find that information attached.

A record of the specific de-registration notification that we received is held in our PF Online system. The notification was submitted digitally through our online portal and was received on 02 July 2020. Checks were made to ensure this notification had been properly authorised by all officers at the time, and was subsequently processed on 23 July 2020. This is reflected in the attached correspondence.

Exemption: Section 40(2) Personal information
You will notice that certain personal details have been redacted from the documents we are releasing. Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides for an exemption where the information requested constitutes personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), and where release of the information requested would breach one of the data protection principles. Some of the information contained in the requested information falls within the description of personal data as defined by the DPA because the information relates directly to an identifiable living individual. This includes names and contact details of individuals in some instances. The individuals in some cases are junior staff members and they would not reasonably expect their information to be released.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request.

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

FW: The Independen...

Sent Date 23/07/2020 16:43

E-mail

From	Partyreg	Cc	
To	Neil Davidson; Neil Davidson	Bcc	
Subject	FW: The Independent Group for Change-– confirmation of de-registration CCM:0462181		

Dear Neil,

Thank you for the application to de-register the party, which was received on 02 July 2020.

We have now processed that application and the party has now been removed from the Great Britain register.

Because the party has been de-registered, the party will no longer be able to stand candidates under the party's name, descriptions or emblems on the ballot paper at elections.

Financial reporting obligations

PPERA requires that the party treasurer ensure that any accounting records are preserved for at least 6 years. The party must make any necessary arrangements to comply with this requirement.

Parties that are removed from the register are still required by law to comply with the financial reporting requirements of PPERA until the end of the financial year in which they were removed, and you remain liable as treasurer for any penalties incurred whilst registered.

[redacted]

This means that you must still submit the following returns:

If you need any assistance in preparing your returns please contact us at pef@electoralcommission.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

Regarding	2020-07-02-The Independent Group for Change-RP9
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

E-mail

Re: The Independen...

Sent Date 03/07/2020 07:44

E-mail

From Neil Davidson Cc

To [redacted] Bcc

Subject Re: The Independent Group for Change - deregistration CCM:0288105

Thanks [redacted],
I think I have completed the process correctly but it would be good if you could confirm. If so, are we now officially deregistered?

Kind Regards,
Neil Davidson

[redacted]

On 1 Jul 2020, at 15:37, [redacted] wrote:

Dear Neil,

The deregistration has been sanctioned, you simply need to submit it to us now.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: Neil Davidson [redacted]
Sent: 01 July 2020 11:46
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: Re: The Independent Group for Change - deregistration CCM:0288105

Dear [redacted]**,**
I think we have done what is required but I would be grateful if you could check please?
Is there anything more we need to do or are we now deregistered?

Kind Regards,
Neil Davidson

[redacted]

On 30 Jun 2020, at 15:48, Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk> wrote:

Dear Neil,

In relation to the deregistration of the party, my apologies for the delay in responding to you on this.

You have a deregistration pending in our system. The next step will involve the following officers of the party authorising the deregistration: Anna Soubry, Sian Green, Neil Davidson.

All officers have accounts in our system to make an authorisation online. Each officer will need to login to the system and navigate to the 'declarations' page and select the option 'I authorise online'. You must initiate the process under this page.

Once all officers have authorised, the deregistration can be submitted to us under the 'Submit' page. If you have any questions about the process, please contact me.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

---------- Original Message ----------
From: Neil Davidson
Received: 02/06/2020 20:18
To: PEF Inbox
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Statement of Accounts Submission and De-registration Process

Dear Team,

I am pleased to confirm we have the full statement of accounts and the required audit complete and ready for submission.

Find attached:

- The full statement of accounts and the required audit for The Independent Group for Change

Please confirm receipt of this as soon as you are able.

Additionally, please will you confirm how best we proceed with the deregistration of the party?
Note that I have tried to update our details on PEF online, but was unable to do so, perhaps because our status is currently "deregistration" mode. However, going forward, please can you ensure myself as outgoing treasurer Neil Davidson [redacted] nd outgoing [redacted] are included in any communications (CC'd in this mail).

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Neil Davidson

Regarding	2020-06-30-The Independent Group for Change-deregistration
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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E-mail

RE: TIGfC: Deregiste...

Sent Date 20/12/2019 13:41

E-mail

From	PEF Inbox	Cc	
To	Sian Green; Sian Green	Bcc	
Subject	RE: TIGfC: Deregistering as a Political Party		

Dear Sian

Thanks for your email. I have split the response into two parts with the first part provided by my registration colleagues.

Deregistering

You have asked about how to deregister your party.

An application to deregister a political must be signed by the party's responsible officers. That is, the party's registered leader, treasurer and nominating officer, and an additional officer if all three posts are held by the same person.

If all of the party officers have PEF Online profiles then the application can be completed online.

Alternatively, you can complete the application by post by returning a signed RP9 form to our London office at The Electoral Commission, 3 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8YZ. Please read the guidance carefully before completing and returning the form.

If you have any further question about deregistration, please contact the Registration team.

Financial reporting obligations

In relation to 2019, you must submit the following:

- **Q4 2019 donations and transactions returns**
- **UK Parliamentary General Election 2019 expenditure return**
- **Statement of accounts 2019**

If you submit an RP9, and the party's income or expenditure in its 2019 accounts is over £25,000, you must also report donations, transactions, statement of accounts and campaign expenditure returns that are due until the end of the following financial year end. Please note that the party's financial year end is 31/12.

If you have any further question about returns, please contact the Financial Reporting team.

Best regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: Sian Green [redacted]
Sent: 19 December 2019 15:09
To: Partyreg <Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Subject: TIGfC: Deregistering as a Political Party

Dear Team,

I write to inform you that we at The Independent Group for Change have begun the process of closing down our operations and will cease to be a political party. We are keen to understand the necessary steps we need to take in order to formally de-register as a political party.

We understand we will need to submit both our 2019 Q4 returns and our GE election expenses and then to post a signed RP9 form to yourselves. Is this correct and if so, is there anything additional required by the Electoral Commission in order to do this?

Best wishes,

--
Sian Green
[redacted] **| The Independent Group for Change**

Regarding	The Independent Group for Change (GB)
Owner	[redacted]
Keywords	
Duration	**Priority** Normal