



Type of Order: DISCIPLINARY CONSENT ORDER

Date of Order: 03 July 2018

Committee Name: INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Details of IP: **Mr Andrew Little**, of **Chester-le-Street**, an IPA member and Licensed Insolvency Practitioner.

Summary of complaint: This Order is made in relation to a complaint that Mr Little, in his role as Liquidator of a company breached the fundamental principle of professional competence and due care of the Ethical Code, Statement of Insolvency Practice 2 ('SIP2') and Insolvency Guidance Paper ('IGP') 5.4 (as appropriate) by:

Failing to request and/or collect books and records to enable an initial investigation to be undertaken, and; approving claims made to the Redundancy Payments Service ('RPS') by former directors lodged on their behalf without verifying the claims (due to a lack of records) which led to false and/or erroneous claims being agreed for payment by the RPS.

Summary of sanctions: Accordingly, Mr Little was found liable to disciplinary action under the IPA's Articles of Association.

The Common Sanctions Guidance provides for a Severe Reprimand and a fine of £5,000 where there has been a serious failure to comply with the fundamental principle of professional competence and due care.

In mitigation, the Committee noted that Mr Little had accepted that there had been failings and had taken steps to ensure no recurrence.

The Investigation Committee decided to impose a disciplinary order that Mr Little receive a Reprimand, a fine of £2,000 and costs.