

UK Company Liquidations and Disqualifications Cheat Sheet



Overview

Company liquidation and director disqualification records reveal when a **UK-registered business has formally entered insolvency** and whether any of its directors have been barred from managing companies.

These records include:

- Company name and address
- Liquidation start date
- Full name of disqualified director
- Disqualification period (start and end dates)
- Reason for disqualification



Why It Matters

- Spot **shell companies, phoenix firms, and failed ventures**
- Flag individuals **banned** from business activity
- Understand **financial and reputational** risk of firms and founders
- Identify directors who **repeatedly dissolve** companies to avoid debt
- Reveal **networks** of connected, collapsed companies



Limitations

- Some directors use middle names or **name variants** to avoid detection
- No clear links to assets unless **cross-referenced** with other datasets



Tips and Considerations

- **Cross-reference** with Companies House appointments to understand active directorships
- Use **addresses from filings** to uncover business or personal networks
- Look for signs of **phoenixing**: same directors, new company, same address



Investigation Support

- **Fraud & Due Diligence** – Flag directors involved in **repeat company failures**
- **Asset Tracing** – Find **business assets** held before insolvency
- **Compliance & Credit Risk** – Identify **high-risk partners** or investments
- **Hiring & Vetting** – Spot **suitability issues** in leadership candidates
- **Litigation Support** – Map **financial harm** or history of mismanagement
- **Procurement Checks** – Confirm **company integrity** and legal standing



Where to Search

- **Companies House** – Business status, filings, and appointment history
- **The Gazette** – Legal notices of liquidation and director bans
- **Disqualified Directors Register** – Search by name or location

About Public Insights

Public Insights helps investigators find addresses, associates, and financial signals tied to UK people and businesses — all from a single search. The platform brings together government and commercial records to uncover properties, companies, directorships, insolvencies, and more. Designed for OSINT workflows, it's the starting point for investigations into fraud, due diligence, asset tracing, and more. Try Public insights today at cradle.publicinsights.uk/accounts/signup to see how our platform can support your investigation workflows.