

Friday 7 December, 2018

Hickman & Rose partner Ross Dixon has appeared on BBC Radio 4's Today programme to discuss the acquittal of his client, former Tesco UK managing director Chris Bush, on all charges related to an alleged fraud at the company.

In a result the BBC's Katie Prescott described as "*quite extraordinary*", Chris Bush's trial was halted half way through when judge, Sir John Royce, agreed with the defence's submission that the Serious Fraud Office's case was too weak to even put to a jury.

Ross told the BBC of the pain Chris Bush's four year investigation and prosecution had caused, and suggested the result should cause some soul searching at the Serious Fraud Office.

*"For a case of this seriousness and magnitude you would expect the Serious Fraud Office would have sufficient evidence for the case to get to the jury"*, Ross told the BBC.

*"That really throws up questions for the SFO as to what they were doing prosecuting these two men in the first place."*

Ross went on to say: *"My client has had to undergo four years of a really horrendous ordeal, that has come to an end - the right outcome has happened."*

*"But if the SFO behave in the same way in the future then there is a real risk out there that there will be people running companies where something has gone wrong and they will find themselves on trial even though they knew nothing about it."*

Full audio at 1:21 here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0001g8m>