

**Private & Confidential**

Cllr Sue Graham  
90 Marsden Road  
Burnley  
BB10 2BL

Our Ref LP/gk/027-1  
Your ref  
Date 31 March 2023

Dear Cllr Graham

**Complaint from Cllr McGowan**

I have received a complaint about your conduct from Cllr McGowan which is abstracted in the schedule to this letter.

An assessment needs to be made as to whether you have failed to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members and whether the complaint should be investigated.

Before I consult with one of the Independent Persons on whether this complaint should be investigated, I am inviting your written representations. You are obliged to make written representations to me, which I must consider when deciding how the complaint is to be dealt with. You must make these representations to me within 5 working days. Any representations received after this day may be considered by me at my discretion but will not, in any event, be considered after I have issued my Complaint Initial Assessment.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



**Lukman Patel**  
**Chief Operating Officer**  
**(Monitoring Officer)**

Enc

## Schedule

I've been sent the following screenshot from a member of the public who is rightly concerned that an elected Councillor, and a member of the Executive, feels it appropriate to post comments of this nature on social media.

Sorry, given the following message, I promised to raise this on behalf of the resident as they want to remain anonymous.

*"Jamie this is absolutely DISGUSTING. Whether you vote Conservative or not this is not acceptable and YOU need to raise it immediately!!!"*

Therefore, please could I lodge a formal complaint as I believe these sorts of comments do bring the Council in to disrepute and are a clear breach of the Code of Conduct.

The screenshot shows a tweet with a red and black graphic. The graphic contains the following text: 'LABOUR WILL CRACK-DOWN ON SMUGGLER GANGS THROUGH A NEW CROSS BORDER POLICE UNIT' and 'LABOUR WILL STOP SMALL BOATS'. To the right, it says 'TACKLE CRISES AT THE SOURCE AND HELP REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN REGION' and 'CLEAR THE TORY BACKLOG OF ASYLUM CLAIMS AND END HOTEL USE'. The tweet text is '5 Tackling global humanitarian crises'. It has 1,502 views, 1 retweet, and 10 likes. Two replies are shown: one from Susan Graham asking for a 3-word slogan, and one from Oliver Ryan saying 'Works for me' with a smiley face.

← **Tweet**

5 Tackling global humanitarian crises

**LABOUR WILL CRACK-DOWN ON SMUGGLER GANGS THROUGH A NEW CROSS BORDER POLICE UNIT**

LABOUR WILL **STOP SMALL BOATS**

**TACKLE CRISES AT THE SOURCE AND HELP REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN REGION**

**CLEAR THE TORY BACKLOG OF ASYLUM CLAIMS AND END HOTEL USE**

23:46 · 14/03/2023 · 1,502 Views

1 Retweet 10 Likes

More Replies

 **Susan Graham** @margeosp... · 15/03/2023 ...  
Can you condense this into 3 words for a snappy slogan? Eg 'F\*\*k the Tories' ?

 1 1 1 50

 **Oliver Ryan** #Burnley · 15/03/2023 ...  
Works for me 😊

 1 1 1 32