

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 light blue header containing a back arrow and the word "Tweet". Below the header is a blue box with the number "5" and the text "Tackling global humanitarian crises". The main content of the tweet is a graphic with two columns of text. The left column reads: "LABOUR WILL CRACK-DOWN ON SMUGGLER GANGS THROUGH A NEW CROSS BORDER POLICE UNIT" and "LABOUR WILL STOP SMALL BOATS". The right column reads: "TACKLE CRISES AT THE SOURCE AND HELP REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN REGION" and "CLEAR THE TORY BACKLOG OF ASYLUM CLAIMS AND END HOTEL USE". Below the graphic, the tweet's metadata is shown: "23:46 · 14/03/2023 · 1,502 Views". Underneath the metadata are icons for retweeting (1), liking (10), replying, bookmarking, and sharing. Below the tweet is a section titled "More Replies" with two replies. The first reply is from Susan Graham (@margeosp...) dated 15/03/2023, asking for a 3-word slogan. The second reply is from Oliver Ryan (#Burnley) dated 15/03/2023, saying "Works for me" with a grinning face with sweat drops emoji.

← **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 📊 50 ↗️

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

🗨️ ↻️ ❤️ 📊 32 ↗️