

Notes of interview held with Councillor Alan Hosker  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018  
Interview Commenced at 2PM

Alleged Breach of Member Code of Conduct, potentially bringing the office of Councillor into disrepute

Present: Councillor Alan Hosker, Chris Gay, Councillor Tom Cornis, Vicky White

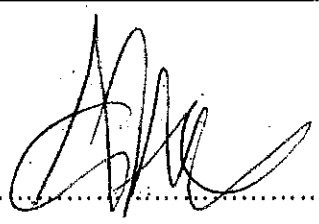
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| Chris Gay         | Explained that the meeting was being held to enable the opportunity to take representations from both parties. It was noted that a written representation from Councillor Hosker had been received. No judgement was being made and the purpose of the meeting was to collect information. A report will then be prepared for the Monitoring Officer to decide what further action, if any, is to be taken. The notes of the meeting will be typed up and sent to Councillor Hosker to agree as an accurate record. |
| Councillor Hosker | Asked that the County Council's opinion received from their legal team be read as he didn't want judging once there and once here.  |
| Chris Gay         | Noted the contents but explained that this was a separate organisation and investigation  |
| Councillor Hosker | Explained that the author of the letter was not aware of the letter from [REDACTED]   |
| Chris Gay         | Explained again that this is a separate organisation and he was dealing with the complaint received by Burnley Borough Council and it was his duty to take representations on that.   |
|                   | The letter was returned to Councillor Hosker  |
| Chris Gay         | Can you tell me when and how you were made aware of this video being posted on your Councillor Facebook page?   |
| Councillor Hosker | When I received the letter on 12 <sup>th</sup> June from you.   |
| Chris Gay         | Did you view the video?   |
| Councillor Hosker | Not straight away but it was later that day. I was not happy when I received the letter.  |
| Chris Gay         | Did you watch the full clip?  |
| Councillor Hosker | I am an official referee and I send players off for making racial remarks. I do not tolerate that behaviour. I stopped viewing the video when I heard what was being said - I was disgusted. I do believe in democracy but believe that protests should be carried out in a good manner   |
| Chris Gay         | You have explained that [REDACTED] posted the video. Can you explain why?   |

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| Councillor Hosker | I kept being asked if I was going on the march. I don't go on any public marches. I was away for a few days and then came back to the letter. ██████ believed that it was a normal protest march and thought I might have been interested in it.  |
| Chris Gay         | Did it just go on your Councillor page?   |
| Councillor Hosker | I can't remember. It might have been on my Councillor and personal pages. It has now been taken off. It wasn't on my business page and I didn't actually see it on my personal page.  |
| Chris Gay         | You said in a letter to Lukman Patel about this matter on 13 June that ██████ posted other articles. Do you recall what they were and when? Does this happen often?   |
| Councillor Hosker | ██████ looks after my business page if I'm not there. ██████ has access to all 3 pages but ██████ doesn't normally post on my Councillor page and that's why I was surprised when I got the letter.   |
| Chris Gay         | You have stated that ██████ did not listen to the video. How do you know this?  |
| Councillor Hosker | I asked ██████ heard it and ██████ said that ██████ didn't have any speakers. ██████ didn't watch it, I said to ██████ if you do post something listen to it first. I don't want to cause ██████ or this – ██████. I wasn't please when I saw it – Joanne Greenwood had a point but ██████ didn't watch it before ██████ copied it. |
| Councillor Comis  | It looks like it was shared from a UKIP Group on Facebook but this isn't an official UKIP site – just a place where people discuss UKIP.  |
| Councillor Hosker | ██████ would not copy anything from Britain First or the BNP  |
| Chris Gay         | The video is branded from News Network  |
| Councillor Comis  | I believe it was shared from a UKIP group as explained but was done innocently  |
| Chris Gay         | You've explained that you took some time away from Council work after undergoing surgery and there were a number of days when you didn't access your Facebook account. Can you recall the dates?  |
| Councillor Hosker | It was that weekend – 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| Chris Gay         | During that period there were several Facebook posts – can you explain these?   |
| Councillor Hosker | ██████ must have posted them as well.   |
| Chris Gay         | Does ██████ check with you before posting anything on your Councillor Facebook page?  |
| Councillor Hosker | I didn't know anything about these posts until on Tuesday when I received the letter from the Council. ██████ doesn't ask permission to   |

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|                   | post things.  |
| Chris Gay         | When did you remove the video?  |
| Councillor Hosker | As soon as I saw it after getting the letter from Lukman.   |
| Chris Gay         | Who actually removed it?  |
| Councillor Hosker | I personally removed it   |
| Chris Gay         | Did you make any comment on Facebook with regards to the video either before or after its removal?  |
| Councillor Hosker | No I just removed it. I removed it after I heard the first couple of lines. I understood why a complaint had been made.   |
| Chris Gay         | Have you made any comments about this complaint on any social media?  |
| Councillor Hosker | I placed a comment on both my Councillor and personal Facebook accounts to state that if the content of the video had caused any upset then I apologise.<br>This complaint has also been made public via the Burnley Express so I have apologised on there as well.   |
| Chris Gay         | Do you recall the outcome of the local resolution to a complaint investigation in 2017? One of the remedial actions was for you to: <i>"Personally manage your Councillor Facebook page rather than allowing a third party to access it"</i><br>How do you respond to this in light of the current investigation?   |
| Councillor Hosker | I didn't class [REDACTED] who [REDACTED] and manages my business page as a third party. The same password covers all 3 of my pages but [REDACTED] never shares or copies any posts – that's what surprises me.<br>Anything [REDACTED] done [REDACTED] done innocently. [REDACTED] can't do anything but apologise. I've been to see a solicitor who as pointed out that I signed the Code of Conduct and I haven't done anything. I can't be held responsible for what [REDACTED] done. |
| Councillor Hosker | You've seen the letter from County Hall and I've already spoken to legal at County Hall. The Burnley Express has been told about the investigation and this shouldn't have been made public.  |
| Chris Gay         | The Council does not and would not comment or release a press statement about investigations that are being conducted.  |
| Councillor Hosker | The Burnley Express repeated the story on Friday. I'm trying to run a business as well as being a Councillor.   |
| Chris Gay         | Have you been contacted for further comment?  |
| Councillor Hosker | No but it feels like I've been assessed as guilty before it's been investigated. In respect of the issue around the German game I was   |

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|                   | concerned about my vehicles being smashed up – I don't speak German so didn't know what was being said on the post.  |
| Chris Gay         | That matter has been concluded, it related to a separate investigation.  |
| Councillor Hosker | I didn't think [REDACTED] put something on. I didn't know that [REDACTED] written to you. [REDACTED] also ill at the moment.   |
| Councillor Comis  | It may be 2 separate investigations but it looks like a continuation of politics by Labour. It is out of character for Alan to post that video – why would he do it?   |
| Councillor Hosker | Do you honestly think I would post that video? I wouldn't do it. Anyone with common sense wouldn't do that.<br>I do have a role as a Councillor representing the public and am concerned about the cost of this investigation. You'll get nowhere and are wasting taxpayer funds.<br>I also request that [REDACTED] is kept out of this matter for medical reasons. [REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED].<br>Since the article appeared in the Burnley Express I have received some nasty phone calls – threatening. I can tell they are Asian because of the tone but the number is withheld. I have to think about [REDACTED] – it shouldn't have gone in the Burnley Express. |
| Chris Gay         | In respect of the calls I would advise that you contact the Police. I note your concern about [REDACTED]   |
| Councillor Hosker | [REDACTED] has apologised for what [REDACTED] has done and has written a letter.   |
| Chris Gay         | Explained that the notes would be typed up and sent to Councillor Hosker for him to confirm as an accurate record. They would also need to be signed.  |

Signed as a correct record: .....



Name: ALAN HOSKER .....

Date: 4th May 2018 .....