

Burnley Borough Council
Legal & Democratic Services
Town Hall, Manchester Road
Burnley, Lancashire BB11 9SA
Tel: 01282 425011

Councillor Alan Hosker
2 Bright Street
Padiham
Burnley
BB12 8RA

Our Ref LS/CEW
Your ref
Date 15th February 2019

Dear Councillor Hosker

RE: COMPLAINT: FACEBOOK ACTIVITY

Further to Mr Patel's letter of 8th February 2019 I write to confirm that I have been asked to investigate a complaint that you have breached the Council's Code of Conduct for members.

The allegation is that you have endorsed (or allowed a third party to endorse) abusive comments from your Borough and County Councillor Facebook account, the particulars being that you have "liked" and responded to a comment made about Julie Cooper MP which referred to her as a "robbing biatch."

It is alleged that by reacting in this way you have brought the Council into disrepute by endorsing such misogynistic abuse.

As part of the investigation I wish to interview you to ask you questions about your actions in relation to this matter. You may bring someone to the interview if you wish. Following the interview I will send to you a copy of my notes for your consideration.

Please can you contact me within the next 7 days to arrange a convenient date for the interview.

I confirm that at this point no conclusions have been made by the Council or Monitoring Officer as to whether there has been a breach of the code.

I also intend to interview the complainant. The complainant has asked to remain anonymous during the process and the Monitoring Officer has agreed that the investigation should proceed on this basis. Once I have interviewed both parties, I will prepare a report which I will present to the Monitoring Officer for his consideration.

Catherine Waudby
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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