



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Report of an investigation by Wilkin Chapman LLP, appointed by the Monitoring Officer for South Kesteven District Council, into allegations concerning Councillor Tim Harrison.

Dated: 25 October 2024

VOLUME 2

SCHEDULE OF EVIDENCE

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Appendix A

Schedule of evidence taken into account and list of unused material

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SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

(Adopted by South Kesteven District Council at Council on 25 November 2021)

Purpose of the Code of Conduct

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to assist you, as a Councillor, in modelling the behaviour that is expected of you, to provide a personal check and balance, and to set out the type of conduct that could lead to action being taken against you. It is also to protect you, the public, fellow Councillors, Local Authority Officers, and the reputation of local government. It sets out general principles of conduct expected of all Councillors and your specific obligations in relation to standards of conduct. The Local Government Association encourages the use of support, training and mediation prior to action being taken using the Code. The fundamental aim of the Code is to create and maintain public confidence in the role of Councillor and local government.

General principles of councillor conduct

Everyone in public office at all levels; all who serve the public or deliver public services, including ministers, civil servants, Councillors, and local authority officers; should uphold the Seven Principles of Public Life, also known as the Nolan Principles.

Building on these principles, the following general principles have been developed specifically for the role of Councillor:

In accordance with the public trust placed in me, on all occasions:

- I act with integrity and honesty
- I act lawfully
- I treat all persons fairly and with respect
- I lead by example and act in a way that secures public confidence in the role of Councillor.

In undertaking my role:

- I impartially exercise my responsibilities in the interests of the local community
- I do not improperly seek to confer an advantage, or disadvantage, on any person
- I avoid conflicts of interest
- I exercise reasonable care and diligence
- I ensure that public resources are used prudently in accordance with my Local Authority's requirements and in the public interest

Application of the Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct applies to you as soon as you sign your declaration of acceptance of the office of Councillor or attend your first meeting as a co-opted member and continues to apply to you until you cease to be a Councillor.

This Code of Conduct applies to you when you are acting in your capacity as a Councillor which may include when:

- You misuse your position as a Councillor
- Your actions would give the impression to a reasonable member of the public with knowledge of all the facts that you are acting as a Councillor

The Code applies to all forms of communication and interaction, including:

- At face-to-face meetings
- At online or telephone meetings
- In written communication
- In verbal communication
- In non-verbal communication
- In electronic and social media communication, posts, statements, and comments

You are also expected to uphold high standards of conduct and show leadership at all times when acting as a Councillor.

Your Monitoring Officer has statutory responsibility for the implementation of the Code of Conduct, and you are encouraged to seek advice from your Monitoring Officer on any matters that may relate to the Code of Conduct. Town and parish councillors are encouraged to seek advice from their Clerk, who may refer matters to the Monitoring Officer.

Standards of councillor conduct

This section sets out your obligations, which are the minimum standards of conduct required of you as a Councillor. Should your conduct fall short of these standards, a complaint may be made against you, which may result in action being taken.

Guidance is included to help explain the reasons for the obligations and how they should be followed.

General Conduct

1. Respect

As a councillor:

- 1.1 I treat other councillors and members of the public with respect.**
- 1.2 I treat local authority employees, employees and representatives of partner organisations and those volunteering for the local authority with respect and respect the role they play.**

Respect means politeness and courtesy in behaviour, speech, and in the written word.

Debate and having different views are all part of a healthy democracy. As a Councillor, you can express, challenge, criticise and disagree with views, ideas, opinions, and policies in a robust but civil manner.

You should not, however, subject individuals, groups of people or organisations to personal attack.

In your contact with the public, you should treat them politely and courteously. Rude and offensive behaviour lowers the public's expectations and confidence in Councillors.

In return, you have a right to expect respectful behaviour from the public. If members of the public are being abusive, intimidatory or threatening you are entitled to stop any conversation or interaction in person or online and report them to the local authority, the relevant social media provider, or the police. This also applies to fellow councillors, where action could then be taken under the Councillor Code of Conduct, and local authority employees, where concerns should be raised in line with the local authority's councillor officer protocol.

2. Bullying, harassment and discrimination

As a councillor:

2.1 I do not bully any person.

2.2 I do not harass any person.

2.3 I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person.

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) characterises bullying as offensive, intimidating, malicious or insulting behaviour, an abuse or misuse of power through means that undermine, humiliate, denigrate, or injure the recipient. Bullying might be a regular pattern of behaviour or a one-off incident, happen face-to-face on social media, in emails or phone calls, happen in the workplace or at work social events and may not always be obvious or noticed by others.

The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 defines harassment as conduct that causes alarm or distress or puts people in fear of violence and must involve such conduct on at least two occasions. It can include repeated attempts to impose unwanted communications and contact upon a person in a manner that could be expected to cause distress or fear in any reasonable person.

Unlawful discrimination is where someone is treated unfairly because of a protected characteristic. Protected characteristics are specific aspects of a person's identity defined by the Equality Act 2010. They are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

The Equality Act 2010 places specific duties on local authorities. Councillors have a central role to play in ensuring that equality issues are integral to the local authority's performance and strategic aims, and that there is a strong vision and public commitment to equality across public services.

3. Impartiality of officers of the council

As a councillor:

3.1 I do not compromise, or attempt to compromise, the impartiality of anyone who works for, or on behalf of, the local authority.

Officers work for the local authority as a whole and must be politically neutral (unless they are political assistants). They should not be coerced or persuaded to act in a way that would undermine their neutrality. You can question officers in order to understand, for example, their reasons for proposing to act in a particular way, or the content of a report that they have written. However, you must not try and force them to act differently, change their advice, or alter the content of that report, if doing so would prejudice their professional integrity.

4. Confidentiality and access to information

As a councillor:

4.1 I do not disclose information:

- a) given to me in confidence by anyone**
- b) acquired by me which I believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, unless:**
 - i. I have received the consent of a person authorised to give it.**
 - ii. I am required by law to do so.**
 - iii. The disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice provided that the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person; or**
 - iv. the disclosure is:**
 - 1. reasonable and in the public interest; and**
 - 2. made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the local authority; and**
 - 3. I have consulted the Monitoring Officer prior to its release.**

4.2 I do not improperly use knowledge gained solely as a result of my role as a Councillor for the advancement of myself, my friends, my family members, my employer, or my business interests.

4.3 I do not prevent anyone from getting information that they are entitled to by law.

Local authorities must work openly and transparently, and their proceedings and printed materials are open to the public, except in certain legally defined circumstances. You should work on this basis, but there will be times when it is required by law that discussions, documents, and other information relating to or held by the local authority must be treated in a confidential manner. Examples include personal data relating to individuals or information relating to ongoing negotiations.

5. Disrepute

As a councillor:

5.1 I do not bring my role or local authority into disrepute.

As a Councillor, you are trusted to make decisions on behalf of your community and your actions and behaviour are subject to greater scrutiny than that of ordinary members of the public. You should be aware that your actions might have an adverse impact on you, other councillors and/or your local authority and may lower the public's confidence in your or your local authority's ability to discharge your/its functions. For example, behaviour that is considered dishonest and/or deceitful can bring your local authority into disrepute.

You are able to hold the local authority and fellow councillors to account and are able to constructively challenge and express concern about decisions and processes undertaken by the council whilst continuing to adhere to other aspects of this Code of Conduct.

6. Use of position

As a councillor:

6.1 I do not use, or attempt to use, my position improperly to the advantage or disadvantage of myself or anyone else.

Your position as a member of the local authority provides you with certain opportunities, responsibilities, and privileges, and you make choices all the time that will impact others.

However, you should not take advantage of these opportunities to further your own or others' private interests or to disadvantage anyone unfairly.

7. Use of local authority resources and facilities

As a councillor:

7.1 I do not misuse council resources.

7.2 I will, when using the resources of the local authority or authorising their use by others:

- a) act in accordance with the local authority's requirements; and**
- b) ensure that such resources are not used for political purposes unless that use could reasonably be regarded as likely to facilitate, or be conducive to, the discharge of the functions of the local authority or of the office to which I have been elected or appointed.**

You may be provided with resources and facilities by the local authority to assist you in carrying out your duties as a councillor.

Examples include:

- Office support
- Stationery
- Equipment such as phones, and computers
- Transport
- Access and use of local authority buildings and rooms

These are given to you to help you carry out your role as a councillor more effectively and are not to be used for business or personal gain. They should be used in accordance with the purpose for which they have been provided and the local authority's own policies regarding their use.

8. Complying with the Code of Conduct

As a Councillor:

8.1 I undertake Code of Conduct training provided by my local authority.

8.2 I cooperate with any Code of Conduct investigation and/or determination.

8.3 I do not intimidate or attempt to intimidate any person who is likely to be involved with the administration of any investigation or proceedings.

8.4 I comply with any sanction imposed on me following a finding that I have breached the Code of Conduct.

It is extremely important for you as a councillor to demonstrate high standards, for you to have your actions open to scrutiny and for you not to undermine public trust in the local authority or its governance. If you do not understand or are concerned about the local authority's processes in handling a complaint you should raise this with your Monitoring Officer.

Protecting your reputation and the reputation of the local authority

9. Interests

As a councillor:

9.1 I register and disclose my interests.

Section 29 of the Localism Act 2011 requires the Monitoring Officer to establish and maintain a register of interests of members of the authority.

You need to register your interests so that the public, local authority employees and fellow councillors know which of your interests might give rise to a conflict of interest.

The register is a public document that can be consulted when (or before) an issue arises. The register also protects you by allowing you to demonstrate openness and a willingness to be held accountable. You are personally responsible for deciding whether or not you should disclose an interest in a meeting, but it can be helpful for you to know early on if others think that a potential conflict might arise. It is also important that the public know about any interest that might have to be disclosed by you or other councillors when making or taking part in decisions, so that decision making is seen by the public as open and honest. This helps to ensure that public confidence in the integrity of local governance is maintained.

You should note that failure to register or disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest as set out in **Table 1**, is a criminal offence under the Localism Act 2011.

Appendix B sets out the detailed provisions on registering and disclosing interests. If in doubt, you should always seek advice from your Monitoring Officer.

10. Gifts and hospitality

As a councillor:

- 10.1 I do not accept gifts or hospitality, irrespective of estimated value, which could give rise to real or substantive personal gain or a reasonable suspicion of influence on my part to show favour from persons seeking to acquire, develop or do business with the local authority or from persons who may apply to the local authority for any permission, licence, or other significant advantage.**
- 10.2 I register with the Monitoring Officer any gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £50 within 28 days of its receipt.**
- 10.3 I register with the Monitoring Officer any significant gift or hospitality that I have been offered but have refused to accept.**

In order to protect your position and the reputation of the local authority, you should exercise caution in accepting any gifts or hospitality which are (or which you reasonably believe to be) offered to you because you are a councillor. The presumption should always be not to accept significant gifts or hospitality. However, there may be times when such a refusal may be difficult if it is seen as rudeness in which case you could accept it but must ensure it is publicly registered. However, you do not need to register gifts and hospitality which are not related to your role as a councillor, such as Christmas gifts from your friends and family. It is also important to note that it is appropriate to accept normal expenses and hospitality associated with your duties as a councillor. If you are unsure, do contact your Monitoring Officer for guidance.

Appendix A – The Seven Principles of Public Life

The principles are:

Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

Integrity

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must disclose and resolve any interests and relationships.

Objectivity

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

Openness

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

Honesty

Holders of public office should be truthful.

Leadership

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

Appendix B – Registering interests

Within 28 days of becoming a member or your re-election or re-appointment to office you must register with the Monitoring Officer the interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 1 (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests)** which are as described in “The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012”. You should also register details of your other personal interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 2 (Other Registerable Interests)**.

“Disclosable Pecuniary Interest” means an interest of yourself, or of your partner if you are aware of your partner’s interest, within the descriptions set out in Table 1 below.

“Partner” means a spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners.

1. You must ensure that your register of interests is kept up-to-date and within 28 days of becoming aware of any new interest, or of any change to a registered interest, notify the Monitoring Officer.
2. A ‘sensitive interest’ is as an interest which, if disclosed, could lead to the councillor, or a person connected with the councillor, being subject to violence or intimidation.
3. Where you have a ‘sensitive interest’ you must notify the Monitoring Officer with the reasons why you believe it is a sensitive interest. If the Monitoring Officer agrees they will withhold the interest from the public register.

Non participation in case of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

4. Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to one of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in **Table 1**, you must disclose the interest, not participate in any discussion, or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a ‘sensitive interest’, you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that you have an interest. Dispensation may be granted in limited circumstances, to enable you to participate and vote on a matter in which you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.
5. Where you have a disclosable pecuniary interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet Member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Disclosure of Other Registerable Interests

6. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your Other Registerable Interests (as set out in **Table 2**), you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Disclosure of Non-Registerable Interests

7. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to your financial interest or well-being (and is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest set out in Table 1) or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate, you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise, you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.
8. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **affects** –
 - a) Your own financial interest or well-being.
 - b) A financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate; or
 - c) a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under Other Registrable Interests as set out in **Table 2**

You must disclose the interest. In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

9. Where a matter (referred to in paragraph 8 above) **affects** the financial interest or well-being:
 - a) To a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
 - b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise, you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

10. Where you have an Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet

member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Table 1: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

This table sets out the explanation of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

| Subject | Description |
|--|---|
| Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation | Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain. |
| Sponsorship | Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. |
| Contracts | <p>Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p> |
| Land and Property | Any beneficial interest in land which is |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| | <p>within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.</p> |
| Licenses | <p>Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer</p> |
| Corporate tenancies | <p>Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of |
| Securities | <p>Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were |

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2: Other Registrable Interests

You must register as an Other Registerable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body:
 - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
 - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
 - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

[REDACTED]

From: Graham Watts <Graham.Watts@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 March 2024 11:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Code of Conduct complaint
Attachments: IMG_0532.png; IMG_0535.jpg; IMG_0531.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi [REDACTED]

Please could you acknowledge and ask Cllr Bailey if he is content with us forwarding his email and attachments onto Cllr Harrison?

Many thanks
Graham

From: Cllr Matthew Bailey <Matthew.Bailey@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 11:32 AM
To: Graham Watts <Graham.Watts@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Subject: Code of Conduct complaint

Morning Graham,

Sorry to add to the growing list, but I would like to submit a Code of Conduct complaint about my Ward colleague Councillor Harrison.

I believe he has breached both 1.1 (Respect) and 4.1 (Confidentiality).

Councillor Harrison posted a screenshot of a private and confidential text message conversation between he and I onto Facebook at 20:42 on the 10th March with a disrespectful comment of "Oh dear". This post was in response to a post by Cllr Green around the A1. By doing so Cllr Harrison has shown a lack of respect to his fellow ward Councillor and breached the trust established between ward colleagues. The text messages were a confidential conversation between 2 Ward Councillors from the 1st March. Cllr Harrison has sought to intimidate me through the use of character assassination, sharing a confidential message on a public platform.

In accepting the role of councillor we all agree to follow the South Kesteven District Council Code of Conduct which incorporates the Nolan Principles. I believe that this post is in breach of 3 of the 7 Nolan principles. Namely:

- **Selflessness:** Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. *Cllr Harrison has used a private conversation in a post against Cllr Green which is not in the public interest. The snapshot of the conversation misleads the full context of the messages, misleading the public. The comments were my own view of the full council vote which has no relevancy to the post by Cllr Green.*
- **Honesty:** Holders of public office should be truthful.

The snapshot of the conversation misleads the full context of the messages, so not being truthful.

- **Leadership:** Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.
- *Cllr Harrison holds a leadership position within the council as chair of a committee. He brings himself and the council into disrepute with this post as it demonstrates a lack of control and displays a breakdown of trust between Councillors.*

Thanks,

Cllr Matthew Bailey



Cllr Ben Green

19 h · 🌐



While it might have ruffled the feathers of the pro-litter Rainbow Alliance Administration at SKDC, the new Clean the A1 reserve we introduced for the Budget is fantastic news for our local wildlife! 🌿🦋



You and 5 others

1 share

Most relevant ▾



Cllr Tim Harrison

Oh dear 🤔



Write a comment...





Cllr Ben Green · Follow

7 h · 🌐



Like

Comment

Copy

Share

You and 4 others

1 share

Most relevant ▾



Cllr Tim Harrison

Oh dear 🤔

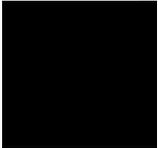


1 h Like Reply

1



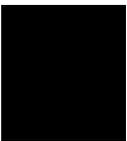
replied · 1 Reply



Ironic the Tories did nothing about it in all the years they were inpeople don't forget .

5 h Like Reply

1



The environment committee already had an agreed action plan. This was pure theatre



Write a comment...



18:51



Matthew >

The honest fact is when I started as a councillor I expected great things from GJ, I was one of them that championed Tories getting chairs in the spirit of working together. I am now in the lead protagonist in having them removed. The nonsense with litter veterans etc. shows there is a core that don't want to get anything done just time waste and cause buggement. Yesterday you voted to amend the budget then promptly voted against the budget 😂😂😂

Well I don't think we ever thought we would win that amendment! 😂 I voted against the budget purely based on the £447k for Leisure SK as I brought up in the Scrutiny session, we should have a 200k reserve allocated.

Sat 2 Mar at 13:31

Ahh so I am right it was just for buggement

I think an opposition should always table sensible amendments, in this case, it was more of a signal of intent from the council.

Sat 2 Mar at 16:03



It wasn't sensible as my recent email shows it was again ill researched and lied about. And as you just stated you didn't expect to win, as evidenced by the fact you then went on to vote against your own amendment 🤔 I welcome sensible suggestions, but these



iMessage



SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMPLAINT AGAINST A DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
MONITORING OFFICER ASSESSMENT DECISION NOTICE

Subject Member: Councillor Tim Harrison

Complainant: Councillor Matthew Bailey

Date of Assessment: 25 March 2024

Summary of complaint:

The complaint relates to the sharing of screenshots of a private text message conversation between Councillor Matthew Bailey and Councillor Tim Harrison, which Councillor Harrison is alleged to have posted on his Facebook page. The screenshots were accompanied with the words 'oh dear' which Councillor Bailey believes demonstrates disrespect towards him.

Alleged breach of the Councillor Code of Conduct:

The Subject Councillor is alleged to have breached the following aspects of the Nolan Principles contained within the Councillor Code of Conduct:

- Selflessness
- Honesty
- Leadership

The Subject Councillor is also alleged to have breached the following parts of the Councillor Code of Conduct:

1. Respect

As a councillor:

1.1 *I treat other councillors and members of the public with respect.*

4. Confidentiality and access to information

As a councillor:

4.1 *I do not disclose information:*

- a) *given to me in confidence by anyone*
- b) *acquired by me which I believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, unless:*
 - i. *I have received the consent of a person authorised to give it.*

- ii. *I am required by law to do so.*
- iii. *The disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice provided that the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person; or*
- iii. *the disclosure is:*
 - 1. *reasonable and in the public interest; and*
 - 2. *made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the local authority; and*
 - 3. *I have consulted the Monitoring Officer prior to its release.*

Summary of response from the Subject Councillor:

The Subject Councillor does not believe he has breached the Code of Conduct given that the complainant did not instruct him that the text message exchange was a private conversation not to be repeated.

The Subject Councillor feels that he has made it clear to all Councillors not to say anything to him that he does not want him to repeat.

The Subject Councillor fails to see how the words 'oh dear' can be construed as disrespectful.

The Subject Councillor has indicated that he does not intend to remove the post from his social media profile or issue an apology to the complainant.

Information considered:

I have reviewed the content of the complaint submitted by the complainant, including a screenshot of a social media post.

I have reviewed the content of the Subject Councillor's response to the allegations made against him.

Assessment:

Councillor Harrison was elected to the Council in May 2023. He is Deputy Leader of the Council's Grantham Independent Group and Chairman of the Council's Governance and Audit Committee. Councillor Harrison has attended Councillor Code of Conduct training since the commencement of this municipal year.

The Facebook post to which the complaint relates includes a text message conversation relating to the meeting of Full Council on 29 February 2024. This demonstrates that the Subject Councillor was acting in an official capacity, with a clear link to the business of South Kesteven District Council. The Councillor Code of Conduct was therefore engaged.

The first assessment stage in the procedure for dealing with complaints against Councillors consists of a jurisdictional test. The complaint, taking the above information into account, complied with the principles of the jurisdictional test which meant it passed through to the second assessment stage.

As part of the second assessment stage the following assessment was undertaken against the following criteria included in the procedure for dealing with complaints against Councillors:

Sufficient evidence

I am satisfied that there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate whether or not a potential breach of the Code of Conduct occurred in respect of this complaint.

Alternative action

I have given due consideration to alternative, more appropriate, remedies that should be explored first, including the possibility of informal resolution between the two parties and whether any offer from the Subject Councillor to settle the complaint informally is reasonable.

The Subject Councillor refutes that a breach of Code of Conduct has occurred and has indicated that he is not minded to remove the social media post or apologise to the Subject Councillor. In view of this, I do not consider there is any possibility of resolving the matter informally.

Robust political debate

Where a complaint is made by a Councillor against another Councillor, a greater allowance for robust political debate may be given, bearing in mind the right to freedom of speech.

I do not believe that this has any bearing over this particular complaint.

Seriousness

I have given due consideration as to whether the complaint is malicious, vexatious, politically motivated or 'tit-for-tat'.

I do not believe that this complaint has been submitted maliciously, vexatiously or on the basis of political motivation or 'tit-for-tat'.

Public interest

I have given due consideration as to whether it would be in the public interest to refer the complaint for investigation or other action and whether it is serious enough to warrant any available sanctions.

Given that the post, which shares a text message conversation between the Subject Councillor and the complainant, is still in the public domain on the Subject Councillor's social media profile which he refuses to remove, I believe that it is in the public interest to refer this complaint for formal investigation.

Conclusion

The Facebook post includes screenshots of a text message conversation between Councillor Tim Harrison and Councillor Matthew Bailey. Within those messages Councillor Bailey is providing his personal opinion on issues relating to Council business.

Whilst I accept that the conversation does not make any reference to the fact that it is a confidential exchange of information, I believe a reasonable member of the public would not expect such an exchange to be published in the way it has been. Personal views were expressed in the exchange and it is clear that Councillor Bailey did not expect his conversation with Councillor Harrison to be placed in the public domain by way of posting screenshots of the conversation on social media.

I do not believe Councillor Harrison had the right to publish a private conversation between him and Councillor Bailey in the way he has and would consider this sufficient grounds to refer the complaint for formal investigation.

Independent Person considerations:

The first Independent Person believes that the conclusion reached by the Monitoring Officer is justified. This is based on how he thinks an ordinary person would view it in terms of such a conversation being published. Additionally, he believes it is clear that Councillor Bailey did not expect his conversation to be published.

The second Independent Person agrees that referral for formal investigation is appropriate in the circumstances as set out as part of the assessment.

Monitoring Officer Decision:

That this Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Tim Harrison be referred for formal investigation.

Graham Watts
Monitoring Officer
South Kesteven District Council

STATEMENT FRONT COVER

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Name: | Matthew Bailey |
| Position Held | Councillor South Kesteven District Council |

wilkin chapman llp
solicitors

Cartergate House,
26 Chantry Lane,
Grimsby
DN31 2LJ

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STATEMENT of: Councillor Matthew Bailey

1. I am a Conservative councillor at South Kesteven District Council (the Council). I represent St Wulframs ward in Grantham. I sit on the Budget – Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Employment Committee and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. I understand that Wilkin Chapman LLP solicitors have been asked to investigate my complaint against Councillor Tim Harrison regarding his posting to social media a screenshot of a private and confidential text message conversation between us.
3. I am a new councillor, having been elected in November 2023. My ward colleague is Councillor Tim Harrison. Being newly elected, you have to learn the ropes, and everyone is different. Some people are more opinionated than others, some sit there and say nothing. There are some who are more outspoken and blast everything on social media, similar to Councillor Harrison. Councillor Harrison is in his sixties. I am 36. I wanted to learn from a more experienced councillor.
4. I am aware that there have been other complaints against Councillor Harrison – there is a lot of noise between him and the Conservative councillors. However, regardless of our political loyalties, we have to work together as ward colleagues. I was trying to put the issues aside and build that relationship.
5. We spoke personally and openly over text message, so I thought we had a relationship where we spoke in confidence. It is very different to discussing things in the Chamber. I have open conversations with lots of councillors and I always thought there was respect amongst councillors and that you have confidentiality by default within the Council. I have a lot of messages between myself and Councillor Harrison, but I am not prepared to post them online to score a cheap political point.
6. Councillor Harrison has never said to me that anything I say to him is ‘open season’. He has never denied that he was aware our conversations via text messages were private and confidential. When you look at the screenshot he shared, there are emojis in it and I think anybody looking at it realised it was my private view on things that were happening. This was

a general, private conversation I was having with Councillor Harrison, sharing my personal view outside of politics.

7. I am not on Facebook all the time, and when I am, it is as a private individual rather than a councillor. I never expected to get a message from somebody saying that Councillor Harrison had posted a screenshot of my messages on Facebook. At the time, Councillor Harrison and [REDACTED] were in Germany. My first reaction was to send a text message to Councillor Harrison, which said:

“Hi Tim, please don’t post our private correspondence on Facebook.”

8. Councillor Harrison replied, trying to justify why he had posted the screenshot. He said:

“Good Morning Matt. [REDACTED] told me this morning that you had asked him to approach me. For reference, please do not assume that because [REDACTED] and I are lifelong friends that he holds any sway over what I say or do. I am my own man and anything I do or say, I stand by. For clarification, you brought yourself into this by liking Cllr Green’s post when you knew it to be false. I have asked you and numerous other Conservatives to put a halt to this inane nonsense, you all choose not to and rather to perpetuate it. I stated when I first stood that unless restricted by law that I reserve the right to repeat what ever anyone said to me and in turn they can do the same with me. I have repeatedly made it clear that if anyone doesn’t want this then they should not engage with me. I was elected on transparency and transparency is what they will get.”

9. As can be seen, Councillor Harrison’s justification for posting the screenshot was that I had ‘liked’ a post by Councillor Green. I had ‘liked’ Councillor Green’s post as a private individual. I believe that posting the screenshot with the comment ‘oh dear’ shows that Councillor Harrison was trying to make what I had said to him into something political to drive a wedge between what Councillor Green was talking about and what I had said in a private conversation. Councillor Green and I are in the same political group, and I believe Councillor Harrison was trying to turn my words against me and use it for a political point.

10. I am a reasonable guy and always thought councillors were reasonable people. I accept that people do things in the heat of the moment and can clearly see that Councillor Harrison was bothered by what Councillor Green had said. However, I don’t believe that liking a Facebook post as a private individual justifies posting a private text conversation for the world to see and then refusing to take it down and apologise.

11. As a new councillor, I have read through the Code of Conduct but hoped I would never have to use it. Submitting the complaint has caused me worry and stress, and a degree of embarrassment. There are consequences to making a complaint about your ward colleague.
12. The outcome I wanted was for Councillor Harrison to remove the post and apologise. The Monitoring Officer approached Councillor Harrison and asked him to do that, but he wasn't prepared to. I would still accept an apology and move on if he took the post down. I feel let down by him and consider he has breached the Code of Conduct. Councillor Harrison's conduct will impact on what other people will think of me.
13. Ultimately, we had been building a relationship and now I feel Councillor Harrison has basically stabbed me in the back by posting the screenshot. I thought I was sharing my personal views with him privately. I now feel that whatever I say to him, might then be posted on social media or in the Grantham Journal.
14. I dare say a lot of councillors were actually surprised that I was having a text message conversation with Councillor Harrison because of the hatred between the Conservatives and him at the time. I was very much trying to build bridges. It caused friction within my own group as they asked why I was speaking to Councillor Harrison since we're 'in strong opposition' with him. I had to try and be professional and that is what I thought I was doing.
15. We have to have respect and confidence in confidentiality, particularly between ward councillors. This has caused a massive problem for my relationship with Councillor Harrison in representing the ward. I have to work with him but now feel like I can't talk to him about anything because, in his words, if he's not breaking the law he can do whatever he wants. Councillor Harrison has not broken the law so in his mind he can continue to breach the Code. It seems as if he doesn't care about the consequences. I don't know how our relationship moves forward if he has the attitude that the Code of Conduct does not apply to him.
16. I have text conversations with other councillors and there are various WhatsApp groups. My view is that you have to have personal relationships as you are working together for the benefit of residents. People should be able to have conversations.
17. I'm happy to befriend people but maybe in this situation I was a tad naïve in thinking all people were nice. Being a councillor is a very steep learning curve and every day is a school day.
18. councillors we receive a lot of confidential information. The Code of Conduct is there to stop us from putting such information into the public domain. If people don't abide by the Code of

Conduct, then we're going to end up with a situation where any document that anybody receives can be put out in the public domain and there are no consequences.

19. As far as I am aware, the Code of Conduct is the rule book. If I were to make a mistake, I would hold my hands up and apologise. I think the principle is that Councillor Harrison breached the rules, and he needs to say sorry. This investigation could have been avoided in March.

I, Councillor Matthew Bailey, declare that this statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed by:  23 September 2024
E21C1B005E4743C...

Signed Date

Interview Transcript – Councillor Harrison

TH - Councillor Tim Harrison

EC - Estelle Culligan

GT - Gill Thompson

EC: So, that is the recording which has started, and I can see that, yes, it's coming up with my speech. So, thank you very much Councillor Harrison for joining us this afternoon, if we could just introduce ourselves, I am Estelle Culligan and I am a Partner in the Regulatory team.

GT: I'm Gill Thompson and I'm a Regulatory Executive in the Regulatory team.

TH: And I'm Tim Harrison District Councillor for South Kesteven St Wulfram's Ward.

EC: Thanks very much everybody. So, Councillor Harrison if we just start off with some general questions about your background with the Council I believe you were first elected in May 2023 is that right?

TH: Yep.

EC: You hadn't been a Councillor there before?

TH: No.

EC: Okay, thank you. And you represent the is it the St Wulfram's Ward?

TH: It is yeah.

EC: Yeah. And can you explain to us if you can remember them all which committees you sit on and if you are chair of any committees.

TH: I sit on 11 different committees I'd be struggling to remember them all....

EC: Oh gosh.

TH: Erm, Chairman of Governance and Audit.

EC: Right, okay, okay. Erm, and just thinking about the training that you've undertaken since you became a Councillor there is some listed on your website but it doesn't mention on, on the Council's website but it doesn't mention code of conduct training, have you

TH: Yeah, I did code of conduct training as well, yeah.

EC: Right, okay, thank you. Do you remember when that was?

TH: Erm no I wouldn't I don't I'd have to go to Dem Services to find that out.

EC: But it was part of the package of training that you had..

TH: Yeah.

EC: As a new Councillor? Do you remember whether that covered dealing dealings on social media?

TH: It did yes.

EC: Right, okay, thanks very much. Erm, that's great. So just moving on to the specific issues of the complaints and we'll take them in turn, erm, and if you're confused at any point then we can sort of slow down and I can point you to what we are talking about because there is a lot and there's a lot of different posts and a, err, you know, a lot of different comments and that sort of thing, so first of all we wanted to talk to you about the complaint by Councillor Bailey, now this relates to the allegation that you posted on a Facebook group or a Facebook page sorry, a private text exchange between you and him.

TH: Can you tell me why that's a private text exchange?

EC: Well no this was his, this was his complaint that it was a private, that's what I he is saying that it's a private....

TH: Yeah but what, what makes it a private text?

EC: Well, we'll come onto that in a minute but if we can just go through and then you know you, we can sort of take your comments on board. So, basically this, first of all I just wanted to ask you because it's not entirely clear do you remember what Facebook page this post appeared on, was it your page, or?

TH: Erm, yes I think it was on my page, yes.

EC: Right, okay that's fine. Erm, also just going back a step can you tell us about because you and he are Ward Councillors for the same Ward..

TH: Yep.

EC:what, what is your working relationship like....

TH: It was, it was very cordial till that time, he was a a late addition he was erm a by election....

EC: Yeah....

TH:and I even invited him to erm utilise my erm, erm, surgeries,

EC: Right

TH:so I let him jump into my surgeries and, and come along, erm, and unfortunately he discoloured my original feelings of him, my original thoughts of him.

EC: What, so your general working with him?

TH: Erm, yes.

EC: Right, okay, was that that was before this incident of the text?

TH: Erm, this was the final straw that broke the camel's back if you like.

EC: Right, okay. So, and what were, what were the sort of issues that made you unhappy...

TH: Erm.

EC:about him?

TH: Erm, I found that rather than solving problems Councillor Bailey was looking to make problems, and he....

EC: Right....

TH:and he currently is, still is at the moment.

EC: Right, okay. So the issue in question dates to the 10th March this year and it relates to a post by Councillor Green about litter and the A1 it's actually about the A1 reserve which I understand was introduced into the budget, erm, and you posted your text exchange with Councillor Bailey where you and he were obviously having a conversation about this with the heading "Oh dear" and you attached a screenshot of the text that you'd had with him, he was very unhappy about this, and then he made a complaint under the Code to say that it was you disclosing a private conversation, do you remember that?

TH: Err yeah I remember that yeah, clearly.

EC: Okay. So, erm, he says that he asked you not to share the private conversation....

TH: No he didn't.

EC: And that...well, and then he sent us what your reply was, erm, which was err, I don't know whether this was a text or an email, I think you were away at the time you said "Good morning Matt, [REDACTED]" I think that's [REDACTED], isn't it?

TH: Mmm.

EC:[REDACTED] told me this morning that you had asked him to approach me for reference, please don't assume that because [REDACTED] and I are lifelong friends that he holds any sway, I am my own man and anything I do or say I stand by", erm, "for clarification, you brought yourself into this by liking Councillor Green's post when you know it to be false, I've asked you and numerous other Conservatives to put a halt to this inane nonsense", err, "I stated when I first stood unless restricted by law I reserve the right to repeat whatever anybody said to me and in turn they can do the same with me. I've repeatedly made it clear that if anyone doesn't want this they should not engage with me, I was

elected on transparency and transparency is what they will get” So that’s what he says that you sent him

TH: Yes, I did yeah.

EC:but he’s unhappy about it, so, I mean, this this text conversation..

TH: He...

EC:sorry....

TH: Sorry, can you tell me, can you show me where he asked me not to post it? He asked me to remove the post, he didn’t ask me not to post it.

EC: Well, I don’t have that information, this, I’m just going on what....

TH: Ah, yeah so....

EC: he has said....

TH:so therefore can you, can you go back to him and ask him for that information then please because he’s telling you a falsehood there, he didn’t ask me not to post it, he asked me to remove, well, he asked [REDACTED] to ask me to remove the post. We were both in Germany at the time....

EC: Yeah....

TH:on a twinning trip to St Augustin.

EC:right, okay. So he asked you to remove the post and what did you, you said....

TH: As you can see my response....

EC:did you say no?

TH: You can see my response, you see my response there.

EC: Yeah. So, why did you, so if you knew that he was upset....

TH: Yeah....

EC:why did you say you wouldn’t remove the post?

TH: Because it, it, the post explains exactly what the, the Conservatives were doing, they were wasting time...

EC: Yes.

TH:they were, they had voted on a policy that they didn’t think they were going to win, got it, they, they actually won the policy and got the result they wanted and then voted against the actual budget that they’d just (laughs) voted to get the adjustment on, so

all I'm doing is, is, is showing the public exactly what the Conservative party were doing.

EC: Right. Yeah I understand, I understand. Can you tell me just about the contents of the text exchange, had you been accustomed to having text exchanges with Councillor Bailey on other issues?

TH: Not,

EC: To do with anything?

TH: Not overly I'd had one erm, 'have you seen this' 'are you come to this meeting', 'are you at that meeting', not overly text exchange but I asked him, so I, what started this off I said can you tell me why, why you did this Matthew, why, you know, you've made yourself look really silly there as a party, you've voted for an amendment, you've got the amendment, and then voted against the budget that you got the amendment to.....

EC: Right.

TH: ...it's ridiculous. He then made the admission that I published, erm....

EC: Right.

TH: Because I reserve right to do that, there was nothing wrong with that, he didn't ask for any privacy on that, as I said in my email I've made clear to every Councillor here if you want something that you don't want to go any further then don't, don't involve me in the conversation please. I reserve...

EC: Right, okay.

TH: the right to take everything forward and he's admitted that to you that I've said that to him so I can't see that there is any complaint on err, err, a break of privacy or anything else, he didn't, before he sent me that message he didn't say I'm going to send you something in confidence or anything to those, to those err to those sort of words so I, I honestly cannot see any issue with this at all.

EC: Right, okay, no I understand, I understand your point of view. So when Graham Watts sent you the complaint....

TH: Yeah.

EC: ...you said, you said in a response to him so you posted the text exchange with your comment oh dear on it

TH: Yeah.

EC: ...in a sort of laughing....

TH: Yeah.

EC: ...you know hand to the face erm, and you said in your response to Graham "I am at a loss to understand why oh dear can be construed as disrespectful I have no answer to that. Did you....

TH: Yeah, because, because.....

EC: Yeah.

TH: There were a few complaints in that one that came to me from Graham Watts....

EC: Yeah.

TH:one was that I had published a private conversation....

EC: Yeah.

TH:which wasn't private, and the other one was that I had been disrespectful with the comment oh dear....

EC: Yeah.

TH:so I said I don't understand how oh dear can be disrespectful.

EC: Can you see how err, oh dear, I mean when, when I read it, it comes across as at the very least sarcastic.

TH: It may be sarcastic....

EC: Right, okay....

TH:but it, it, it, I'm not saying it wasn't even meant as sarcasm, it may well have been meant as sarcasm because, you, you, you're, you're making, you're publishing an argument there that you are telling a, erm, a falsehood or a or at least a erm, untruth to, or a, a, mis misdirection plate whichever way you want to look at it and I've highlighted the problem and just gone oh dear.

EC: Right, so your purpose in putting it on there was to demonstrate that Councillor Bailey was at odds with his colleague.

TH: No. My, the, the, the whole, the whole party were and they didn't even think they were going to win the, win the amendment so it's a case of oh dear, you know, I've not got a Conservative party erm member telling me that they didn't expect to win the amendments, then they won it, and now they, and then they were shouting, shouting about it even though they then (laughs) had voted against the very erm budget that

EC: Yeah.

TH: they'd got the amendment to, it's, it's, it's err, crazy.

EC: I understand. Did you get a lot of follow up from your comment, were there, do you remember were there lots of other comments from other people, was there any comments

TH: I can't remember.

EC:from other Councillors....

TH: I don't think so.

EC:no, okay. Erm, do you understand that he might be upset by your post?

TH: That's his problem I've, I, I, you err, I'm sorry you stand as a Councillor and you make these decisions, if somebody highlights what you've done....

EC: Yeah.

TH:I've not stated a falsehood there, I've shown exactly what they've done. If it upsets him at being shown to do exactly what he's done, it's, I haven't lied about him, I haven't made out he's done something he hasn't done, I've shown....

EC: No.

TH:something exactly what he's done, if that upsets him that's on him I'm afraid.

EC: Yeah.

TH: You know, if I....

EC: Okay.

TH:if I commit a crime and then I get upset because the police caught, catch me at it, that's my problem that I get upset about it you know. I'm not saying he's committed a crime but he's you know, I'm....

EC: Oh yeah I know...

TH: Its an analogy.

EC: I know what you mean you've, you've called him out in public on....

TH: Yes.

EC:something that he's says or something he says he thought was private between you.

TH: Yeah well, if, if he if he said that but he's also then told you that I also said to him don't talk to me about anything that's that's not and we had this conversation the very first time I met Matthew when he attended, before he was even elected, and he....

[TEXT RELATING TO OTHER MATTERS HAS BEEN REMOVED]

TH: There's a, there's a few Councillors now and myself and erm, err 3 or 4 other Town Councillors have all made it clear to Graham Watts that we do not, we've said to them, please make sure that they know not to interact with us, we don't want to interact with them. You know. Erm, and one of the other complaints coming up will deal with something along those lines as well. Erm....

EC: So how does that work with you....

TH:because....

EC: ...sorry, how does that work with you having to liaise with Councillor Bailey in your Ward?

TH: Erm, it's cordial.

EC: Right, so you, you're still managing to work for the Ward, together.

TH: Oh, oh I work phenomenally for the Ward. Erm....

EC: No, but I mean in terms of the two of you being, being members of the Ward, there must be things.....

TH: If....

EC:when you have to cooperate with each other for the Ward?

TH: I, I don't work with Councillor Bailey, I work on my own.

EC: Right.

TH: Err, if Councillor Bailey picks something up erm, today for instance, we've had something that's been sent to both of us erm, I was in chairing the G&A so he's responded first so I've just contacted the person and said I see Councillor Bailey's picked this up, I'll leave it in his hands. If you should have any issues erm, and it doesn't go any further bring it back to me.

EC: Ok.

TH: So that's how, that's how it works at the minute, I, I do my thing, he does his thing and erm...

EC: But could you see that it might cause problems in the future if there is something that....

TH: No because, I, I, I won't let it. I erm, the, the issue with Councillor Bailey is he is now upsetting lots and lots of people fully across the Council. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] so he's blotting his copy book, so I'm just gonna let him carry on and do his sweet thing, I don't have to engage with him, I can do my thing

and if he picks err an issue up in the Ward before me I'll let him run with it, that's fine. It doesn't need two of us....

EC: Okay.

TH: ...it doesn't need two of us to chase up err an issue, you know, if there's an issue needs chasing up with County or it only needs one of us to do it so let him do it and then I contact the person saying I'm leaving this to Councillor Bailey, if there's an issue and you feel you need to take it further please come back to me.

EC: Okay, alright thank you, I understand. So, then moving on

[TEXT RELATING TO OTHER MATTERS HAS BEEN REMOVED]

EC: ... is there anything else that you want to say? Before we ...

TH: No, I'm sorry that you've had to spend time on this, it's a vast waste of resource and monies. I'm sure you've got far more important things to do. *[TEXT RELATING TO OTHER MATTERS HAS BEEN REMOVED]*

EC: Yeah.

[TEXT RELATING TO OTHER MATTERS HAS BEEN REMOVED]

EC: I understand. Well listen, thank you very much. Just bear with me one second, I'm going to stop the recording if I can.

TH: Yep.

EC: Just bear with me. Stop recording.

END OF RECORDING

I certify that this is an accurate note of my interview with Estelle Culligan and Gill Thompson on Tuesday 16 July 2024.

Signed.....

Dated.....

From: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2024 14:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (97613/248, 97613/246, 97613/243 and 97613/241) - Interview Transcript

This Message originated outside your organisation.

Good afternoon [REDACTED]
I have only had time for a cursory glance over all this, I am too busy. It all seems in order I am confident that you will have transcribed accurately. If there is any issue in the future we can always return to the video.

Kind regards

Tim Harrison Councillor for Grantham St. Wulfram's Ward

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 9:58:17 AM
To: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: (97613/248, 97613/246, 97613/243 and 97613/241) - Interview Transcript

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good morning Councillor Harrison

I refer to my email below and the attached letter and transcript.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your approval of the transcript as soon as possible.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

W:
www.wilkinchapman.co.uk
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?Warning there has been an increase in online fraudulent activity. We will never contact you with a change in account details. It is recommended that you always verify the details of any transaction with the person responsible for your matter and report any suspicious activity by phone by contacting our main office telephone number if you are in any doubt.

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 2:21 PM
To: Tim.Harrison@SouthKesteven.gov.uk
Subject: (97613/248, 97613/246, 97613/243 and 97613/241) - Interview Transcript

Dear Councillor Harrison

Please find attached, for your consideration, a letter together with interview transcript.

The transcript itself is password protected for security. We have obtained a mobile number from the Council's website ending 569. I will therefore send the password to you via SMS shortly.

Should you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

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For payments to us:

From: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 August 2024 15:38
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Reminder: Complete with Docusign: Interview Transcript - Councillor Tim Harrison.pdf

This Message originated outside your organisation.

Hi [REDACTED]
I cannot sign this, I haven't had a copy of the video to compare it, plus I really do not have the time to spend going through it. As you are aware I do not get paid for this time and consider it a waste of my valuable time, where I can actually be achieving something for the constituents.

Kind regards

Tim Harrison Councillor for Grantham St. Wulfram's Ward

From: DocuSign EU System <dse@eumail.docusign.net> on behalf of [REDACTED] via Docusign <dse@eumail.docusign.net>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2024 3:00:32 AM
To: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Subject: Reminder: Complete with Docusign: Interview Transcript - Councillor Tim Harrison.pdf

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[REDACTED]
Dear Councillor Harrison

Please find attached, for electronic signature and return, interview transcript.

I look forward to receiving the signed document.

Kind regards



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[REDACTED]

From: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: 21 August 2024 12:09
To: Estelle Culligan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (97613/246) - CLLRS GREEN, JEAL AND WOOLLEY V CLLR HARRISON - agreeing and signing interview transcript

This Message originated outside your organisation.

That's brilliant that's all i ask, thanks. It is just very busy for me at the moment.

Kind regards

Tim Harrison Councillor for Grantham St. Wulfram's Ward

From: Estelle Culligan <Estelle.Culligan@wilkinchapman.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:08:03 PM
To: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: (97613/246) - [REDACTED] - agreeing and signing interview transcript

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Dear Councillor Harrison

[REDACTED] is on leave today but she has forwarded me your recent emails with her about her request for you to sign the copy of your interview transcript. You said, firstly, that you have only had time for a cursory glance through; secondly, that you cannot sign it as you haven't seen the original video of the interview. [REDACTED] is enquiring to see how we can get you access to the video recording. However, in the meantime, we will continue to prepare our draft report. We will refer to any relevant comments in the interview but make clear that you did not sign the interview transcript and give your reasons for not signing. This is our usual procedure.

[REDACTED] will contact you asap about accessing the video.

Kind regards

Estelle

Estelle Culligan???

Partner , Wilkin Chapman LLP

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www.wilkinchapman.co.uk <<https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/ce-CCDR6nioJ9orhAi1ujSpAN?domain=linkprotect.cudasvc.com>>

A:

Cartergate House, 26 Chantry Lane, Grimsby DN31 2LJ

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Consider the environment. Do you really need to print this email?

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For payments to you:

If you wish to notify us of a change to your bank details to those originally provided, please note we will not accept this information by email without speaking to you to confirm the change and we will also need a bank statement or other evidence to confirm the account details.

This e-mail and its contents are confidential, protected by law and legally privileged. Only access by the addressee is authorised. Any liability (in negligence, contract or otherwise) arising from any third party taking any action, or refraining from taking any action on the basis of any of the information contained in this e-mail is hereby excluded. In the event that you are not the addressee, please notify the sender immediately by replying to the email and

[REDACTED]

From: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 September 2024 16:09
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Reminder: Complete with Docusign: Interview Transcript - Councillor Tim Harrison.pdf

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Your conditions are not acceptable to me. I am sorry.

Tim Harrison Councillor for Grantham St. Wulfram's Ward

From: DocuSign EU System <dse@eumail.docusign.net> on behalf of [REDACTED] via Docusign <dse@eumail.docusign.net>
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2024 2:48:12 AM
To: Cllr Tim Harrison <Tim.Harrison@southkesteven.gov.uk>
Subject: Reminder: Complete with Docusign: Interview Transcript - Councillor Tim Harrison.pdf

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Gill Thompson sent you a document to review and sign.

REVIEW DOCUMENT

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[REDACTED]

Dear Councillor Harrison

Please find attached, for electronic signature and return, interview transcript.

I look forward to receiving the signed document.

Kind regards

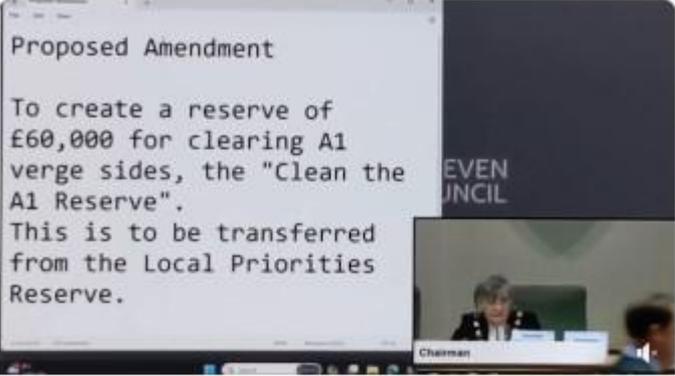
[REDACTED]

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Clr Tim's post

Clr Tim Harrison
10 March

Well at least you get comedic value. What he neglects to tell you is that they voted for this amendment then voted against the budget they were amending. The chuckle brothers still live.



Clr Ben Green
10 March

While it might have ruffled the feathers of the pro-litter Rainbow Alliance Administration at SKDC, the new Clean the A1 reserve we introduced for the Budget is ... See more

3 6 comments

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Come back with a solution not just throw council tax payers money at it typical Tories throw money at it and think that's it brokners clr green springs to mind
25m Like 4

A child in a man's body best describes this guy and the sales pitch of a modern day spiv...
25m Like 2

Just what you need to see
25m Like 1

What did he do about it when the Tories were in control of the council, or is it just the last 9 months that people have been dropping litter
25m Like Edited 2

what an arse hole why are you on the roadside when drivers are going buy you idiot anything could happen.
25m Like

Have you asked the police if you can be on the the area without an escort you are endangering your safety and the person who hits you will be suffering for the rest of their lives...
25m Like 1

Text message conversation between myself, Cllr Harrison and [REDACTED]

