

**COMPLAINT CONCERNING COUNCIL CONDUCT:
COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HEWITT OF BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD TOWN
COUNCIL**

**DECISION:
COMPLAINT REFERRED TO MONITORING OFFICER FOR INVESTIGATION**

THE COMPLAINT

One complaint was received alleging that Councillor William Hewitt (the 'Subject Member') breached the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council Code of Conduct by writing three separate Tweets on Twitter.

Tweet A:

"Pure f***ing* scum attacking the Police. We should have sent in the Army with water cannons to disperse those mindless thugs. May the fleas of 1000 Covid-19 victims invade their arse and they all suffer a painful death."

**This word was not disguised in the original Tweet by the Subject Member.*

Tweet B:

"I really hope every one of them gets riddled with Covid-19. All the isolation and Furlough ruined in one f***ing* afternoon. Bring back total isolation everywhere please Boris."

**This word was not disguised in the original Tweet by the Subject Member.*

Tweet C:

In response to a tweet made by celebrity Amanda Holden which had stated "something bit me on the [emoji]" (reference to her cleavage):

"if you need any volunteers to help you look....?"

The complaint was made by Councillor Ed Hume (the 'Complainant').

STANDARDS ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

On 17 November 2020, the Standards Assessment Sub-Committee considered the issues surrounding this complaint.

Tweet A:

The Standards Assessment Sub-Committee unanimously found that the Subject Member was acting in his capacity as a Councillor at the time that the Tweet was made and that it may, if proven, have breached Rules 1 and 2 of the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council the Code of Conduct.

Tweet B:

The Standards Assessment Sub-Committee unanimously found that the Subject Member was acting in his capacity as a Councillor at the time that the Tweet was made and that it may, if proven, have breached Rules 1 and 2 of the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council the Code of Conduct.

Tweet C:

The Standards Assessment Sub-Committee found by majority that the Subject Member was acting in his capacity as a Councillor at the time that the Tweet was made and that it may, if proven, have breached Rule 1 of the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council the Code of Conduct.

DECISION

The Standards Assessment Sub-Committee unanimously agreed that an investigation would be in the public interest and asked the Investigator to investigate the following:

1. Was Councillor Hewitt acting in his capacity as a Councillor when the Tweets were posted?
2. If so, do the Tweets posted by the Subject Member constitute a breach of Rules 1 and 2 of the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council?

Sharon Bridglalsingh
Monitoring Officer