



Blackdown House
Border Road
Heathpark Industrial Estate
Honiton
EX14 1EJ
DX 48808 Honiton

Standards Hearing Sub Committee

Pre-hearing Summary Report

Name of Authority	East Devon District Council
The name of the member who the allegation has been made about	Councillor John Taylor (Honiton Town Council)
The name of the person who made the original allegation (unless there are good reasons to keep his or her identity confidential)	John Burgess, Sonia Hawkins and Anthony McCollum
The case reference numbers of the principal authority	MO/HGL/2020-C10, C11 & C19
The name of the Standards Committee member who will chair the hearing	Cllr Cathy Gardner
The name of the Investigator	Tim Darsley
The name of the Monitoring Officer	Henry Gordon Lennox
The name of the clerk of the hearing or other administrative officer	Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor to give legal advice to the Committee. Wendy Harris, Democratic Services to take minutes.
The date the pre-hearing summary was produced	3 rd March 2021
The date, time and place of the hearing	12 th March 2021 at 9.30am via Zoom


A summary of the allegation	The complainants provided evidence which in their view demonstrated that Councillor Taylor had breached paragraphs 4a (all three complainants) and 5c (Messrs Hawkins and McCollum) of Honiton Town Council's Code of Conduct in relation to Tony McCollum through his actions at a meeting in the High Street and through comments in his COVID Compliance Proposal and associated documents.
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The relevant section or sections of the Code of Conduct	<p>Relevant paragraphs from the Honiton Code of Conduct that were investigated:</p> <p>General obligations</p> <p>4. You must -</p> <p>(a) treat others with courtesy and respect including fellow council members, staff and members of the public.</p> <p>5. You must not –</p> <p>(c) bully any person (bullying may be characterised as any single act or pattern of offensive, intimidating, malicious, insulting or humiliating behaviour; an abuse or misuse of power or authority which attempts to undermine or coerce or has the effect of undermining or coercing an individual or group of individuals by gradually eroding their confidence or capability which may cause them to suffer stress or fear).</p>
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Further background	The Investigator's report details the relevant background and information in respect of this complaint. Councillor Taylor has provided comments where he disagrees with the content of the Investigator's report as well as further comments. The Sub-Committee will need to consider the content of the Investigator's report and representations from the Subject Member in detail.
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Whether or not the member or the MO will attend.	<p>Councillor John Taylor has indicated that he will be attending the Hearing.</p> <p>It is understood that the Complainants will be attending.</p>
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	The Monitoring Officer and Investigator will be attending.
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Signed: 

Name: Henry Gordon Lennox, Monitoring Officer

Dated: 3rd March 2021