



Decision Notice

Date of Determination: 5 April 2023

Complainant: Ashleigh Keen, Christina Harbour, Michael Mainstone and Le Cullen.

Councillor: Councillor Angela Kilmartin

Investigating Officer: Mrs Crowe

Summary of Complaint:

The background to the complaint relates to a posting placed on the Witham Community Facebook page by Councillor Kilmartin, which related to the displaying of Pride Progress Flags in shop windows along Witham High Street.

Code of Conduct

The Complaint was considered against the following provisions set out within the Witham Town Council Code of Conduct:

- a. Not bring the role of a councillor or the local authority into disrepute.

Findings of the Monitoring Officer:

The Monitoring Officer has determined that the behaviour of Councillor Kilmartin are in breach of the Town Councils Code of Conduct, having regards to the full facts of this matter, and the views of the Independent Person.

However, was not minded, to instigate a full investigation of the matter. With agreement of the Independent Person, the Monitoring Officer does not believe that this situation warrants a full investigation. The elements identified were quite clear and the findings of a full investigation will not bring about a different outcome.

Monitoring Officer Advice

The Monitoring Officer has advised that it would be beneficial for Councillor Kilmartin to undergo Equality Act and emotional intelligence training.

Further in light of the upset caused to the community, Cllr Kilmartin is invited to issue an apology for the comments made on Facebook.

Kim Cole

Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer