



Leader of the Conservative Group
Councillor Jeff Green



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10 January 2014

Dear Phil

Thank you for your letter dated 17 December 2013 concerning the question I asked at Council on 16 December 2013.

The question was as follows: *'In the Corporate plan the Leader of the Council refers to his success in changing the council's culture. Is he aware of a tape recording produced as recently as August this year in which it is alleged that a senior member of his administration can be heard: 1. using language about a senior officer that is totally unacceptable and 2. encouraging former Council employees to smear me to take the pressure off his own colleagues and gain political advantage. If he is aware what action has he taken and what does this say for his assertion that the culture is changing in his Group?'*

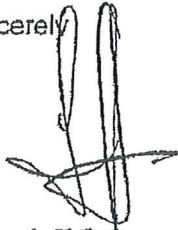
Following on from your letter a number of things require clarification:

1. Does a tape exist?
2. If a tape exists, have you heard it?
3. In any subsequent investigation was the matter of the attempt to smear me as the Leader of the Conservative Group examined?
4. In your letter you referred to a briefing I had received over this matter. This is incorrect and I would ask you who told you I had been briefed? I have received an answer to a direct question rather than anything I would consider to be a full and open briefing.
5. With regards to seeing a copy of the investigation report I have refused to sign the outrageous secrecy preconditions that accompany your offer.
6. I note in your letter you 'do not believe this is a matter for party politics' so how would you characterise an alleged invitation to smear the Leader of the Conservative Group to relieve pressure from a senior member of your Labour Group?

7. You will, of course, be aware that when a member of my Group made inappropriate comments he was suspended. Given in your letter you assert that the senior Member of your Group 'made adverse comment' in reference to a senior Council Officer can I ask what disciplinary action you have taken against that Member?

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jeff Green', written over the words 'Yours sincerely'.

Councillor Jeff Green
Leader of the Conservative Group
Ward Councillor for West Kirby & Thurstaston