

Appendix G – Cllr Michael’s Response to the Complaints

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ALLANOL: Daw'r e-bost hwn o'r tu allan i Gyngor Caerdydd, cymerwch ofal wrth glicio ar ddolenni.

Both.I have now had a bit of time to look at the complaint from Coun Molik and all I can see is Coun Molik stating I have been rude to her but giving no evidence of my being so.

Throughout my emails I make a robust defence of my portfolio and officers by asking for evidence to support Coun Molik statements to me but Coun Molik fails to provide any .

The change to a 4-day working week is the biggest change in the waste collections services for over 20 years and as such I made sure that councillors were kept informed.

I had meetings with both the leadership of the Conservative and Liberal Democrat opposition as well as meetings with all councillors in order for them to understand the changes.

Councillors are able to call me or email me with any concerns and a lot of them in all parties did so.

Interestingly when the last major change took place in waste services it was in 2011 and Coun Molik’s party were responsible.

At the time a council statement was put out stating that when the crews learned their new rounds then the service would settle down(as indeed is the case).

I put out a similarly worded statement but this was ignored by Coun Molik.

Councillors respond in different ways and in my view Coun Molik received some emails that were critical of the changes and she chose to respond in a negative way.looking to blame me for the changes.

Councillors were given regular updates to the way the changes were panning out as well as the pandemic and the driver shortages we were dealing with.

Unfortunately Coun Molik was more interested in scoring political points than understanding the situation and communicating with her residents.

The second complaint I find strange as it was from 2018.As the film shows I answered Coun Molik questions and I was then asked a supplementary question by Coun Owen Jones,

Coun Jones asked me about the black and recycling bags that were being ripped open by gulls in his ward and I explained that we were looking to put out more black bins in order to make it difficult for gulls to pick at the plastic bags.

Indeed we are now looking to roll out in the summer a different bags that would not be ripped up by gulls.

I am puzzled that Coun Molik states that I answered the questions in a different way as they were different questions.

Coun Molik unfortunately seems to believe that it's my job to agree with her and if I don't I'm being rude.

This is politically and factually incorrect, I would refer you to the statement by the local service's ombudsman a few years ago when he stated that "Councillors should grow a thicker skin"

It seems that it's ok for Coun Molik to send email to me questioning whether I have been open, honest and transparent but she believes it's ok to throw mud at me and question the work I and my officers are doing without any evidence to support her but I mustn't argue back.

In my view Coun Molik is using the standards and ethics committee for her own politically driven motives.

Regards

Michael

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