

PE1488/P

Angela Wilson

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Stephen West

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Our Ref: SW/MM
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Ned Sharratt
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions
Committee
T3.40
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1 SP

Dear Mr Sharratt,

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1488

I refer to your letter dated 19th March 2014 on the above subject for which it was asked:

How are elected members of local authorities involved in the local authority's whistleblowing policy?

For West Dunbartonshire Council (WDC), I would make the following comments:

WDC introduced a Confidential Reporting Policy in 2006. This policy was subsequently revised and renamed as the Public Interest Disclosure Policy and formally approved by Elected Members at the Corporate Services Committee in 2012. Under this policy, WDC's Internal Audit Section is required to carry out an investigation of any disclosures made in the public interest. Concerns raised are treated in strict confidence and when requested an individual's identity will normally be kept confidential. Every six months, cases are reported to Elected Members through the Audit and Performance Review Committee on a basis which respects the principle of confidentiality.

If you would like any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen West
Head of Finance and Resources