

**London Borough of Hillingdon Members' Code of Conduct –
Investigation into complaint by Councillor Janet Duncan against
Councillor Anita MacDonald**

**Note of interview with Councillor Lynne Allen at 1.38 pm on Tuesday 23rd August
2011 at Hillingdon Civic Centre**


Mr Revell (TJR) introduced himself and said that at the request of the Monitoring Officer for the London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) following a complaint received from Councillor Duncan he was conducting an investigation into the allegations she had made against Councillor MacDonald. Councillor Allen (LA) confirmed that she had received TJR's letter of 18th August 2011. TJR ran through the contents of the letter. LA confirmed that she had chosen not to be accompanied at the interview. TJR reiterated the need to keep the contents of the interview confidential. He outlined the procedure he was intending to follow. LA had no questions at this stage.

TJR indicated that he wished to ask LA about a conversation she was alleged to have had with Councillor Duncan about the Labour group fund referred to in appendix 5 of the documents considered by the Assessment Sub-Committee. LA indicated that when she had been Chief Whip she advised the Labour group that she did not think it appropriate for the Chief Whip to act as treasurer for the fund. The group had agreed and the late Councillor Nunn-Price took on this role which he carried out correctly. Any suggestion otherwise would tarnish the reputation of an honest and upright person. Her view was that former Councillor Marshall was an honest man and it was incorrect to describe him as having a 'slush fund'. LA thought that the fund had always been handled properly.

LA indicated that she had not had a conversation where Councillor Duncan had referred to a 'slush fund' but that the conversation was about whether all members should contribute to the fund. In the past contributions had been voluntary but the rules now required all members to contribute in accordance with arrangements agreed by the group.

The interview concluded at 2.00 pm.

I certify this note is a true record of the interview conducted with Tim Revell on 23rd August 2011.


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Signed

25 August 2011
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Date