

Torbay Council**Allegation of a breach of the Member Code of Conduct
and/or protocol**

1	Full name(s) of person(s) making allegation:	Anne-Marie Bond
2	Address:	Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR
3	Telephone Number:	
4	E-Mail address:	Anne-marie.bond@torbay.gov.uk
5	Names, E-Mail addresses, and telephone numbers of any witnesses:	
	Cllr Nicole Amil – Nicole.amil@torbay.gov.uk	

Torbay Council

Complaint against a member of the council

1	Against which member is your complaint being made?
	Cllr Katya Maddison
2	What do you allege the member did wrong? (State specifically what the member said and/or did)
	<p>I attended the Annual Meeting of the Council in my capacity as Chief Executive of Torbay Council. It is my duty as such to advise the meeting, without fear, favour or agenda.</p> <p>As the meeting ended, I followed the Civic Mayor to his retiring room. Outside of the room there were a large number of Councillors, a member of the press and some members of the public. They were congregated in small groups. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were the recipients of a number of comments from those congregated.</p> <p>Just as I got to the door, to the left of it, Cllr Maddison stood with Cllr Amil. At this point Cllr Maddison said 'shame on you Anne-Marie,' I stopped and said to Cllr Maddison 'Sorry Cllr Maddison, what did you say?' to which she responded 'shame on you Anne-Marie.' I did not engage further to challenge Cllr Maddison as to what she had said, believing that it was inappropriate to engage further at that point, and I proceeded into the Mayor's retiring room.</p> <p>I have considered whether it would be more appropriate to meet with Cllr Maddison privately to discuss my concerns in respect of her comments, however as Cllr Maddison challenged my integrity in public, I believe that the most appropriate action is to formalise this complaint.</p> <p>Mid way through writing this complaint as to Cllr Maddison's public remark at Annual Council, I have been made aware of a comment that made by Cllr Maddison on Facebook, on a profile that is open to anyone to view and indeed the person's profile has 1317 friends meaning that at least this number of people will have easy access to her comments. Her comment reference officers in two respects;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) 'Governance Support – which I've christened Conservative Support'(2) 'Torbay Council is a sick institution and certain leading council officers are at the heart of it.' Given her remark at Annual Council, I have no doubt that her reference is in respect of me and my Senior Leadership Team.
3	Which paragraph(s) of the Members' code of conduct and / or Protocol do you say have been breached?

	<p>4.2(a) Treat others with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>4.3(a) Bully or harass any person</p> <p>4.3(h) Conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute</p>
4	When and where do you say the alleged breach occurred?
	<p>16 May 2024, at the Riviera International Centre at the rising of the Full Council meeting.</p> <p>16 May 2024, Facebook comment (screenshot attached)</p>
5	What is your evidence for alleging a breach? (Set out below the specific evidence and write on additional sheets if necessary. Attach copies of any relevant correspondence papers, documents which you say support your allegations).
	<p>4.2(a) Treat others with courtesy and respect Evidence : remark made By making her remark to me in a public setting, Cllr Maddison subjected me to personal remark/comment and attack. Evidence : facebook comment</p> <p>(1) By commenting on facebook, and as the Council's most senior officer, and when linked with her public remark at annual council, Cllr Maddison has subjected me to personal remark/comment and attack. More widely, on behalf of the Council's Leadership Team, she has subjected us as a team to personal comment and attack.</p> <p>(2) By commenting of facebook as to the Governance Support team, she has subjected the officers of that team to personal comment and attack.</p> <p>4.3(a) Bully or harass any person Evidence : remark made By making her remark to me in a public setting Cllr Maddison humiliated, denigrated and injured my reputation. Evidence : Facebook comment</p> <p>(1) By commenting on facebook, and as the Council's most senior officer, and when linked with her public remark at annual council, Cllr Maddison has</p>

	<p>subjected me to humiliation, denigration and has injured my reputation. More widely, on behalf of the Council's Leadership Team, she has subjected us as a team to humiliation, denigration and has injured our collective reputation.</p> <p>(2) By commenting of facebook as to the Governance Support team, she has subjected the officers of that team to humiliation, denigration and has injured their collective reputation.</p> <p>4.3(h) Conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute</p> <p>Evidence : remark made</p> <p>By making her remark to me in a public setting, Cllr Maddison has undermined my impartiality and professionalism and as such has brought the Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Evidence : Facebook comment</p> <p>(1) By commenting on facebook, and as the Council's most senior officer, and when linked with her public remark at annual council, Cllr Maddison has undermined the impartiality and professionalism of officers and as such has brought the Council into disrepute. More widely, on behalf of the Council's Leadership Team, she has undermined our impartiality and professionalism and as such has brought the Council into disrepute.</p> <p>(2) By commenting of facebook as to the Governance Support team, she has undermined their impartiality and professionalism and as such has brought the Council into disrepute.</p>
6	<p>Are there any witnesses who can corroborate what you say? If so, set out their names below and write their contact details on the attached form.</p>
	<p>Cllr Amil was stood with Cllr Maddison as she made her remarks to me. As I was bringing up the rear of the Mayoral party, those with me, i.e. Cllr Spacagna, Cllr Stevens and Cllr Brook I do not believe heard Cllr Maddison's remark, however upon entering the room, I was so shocked I immediately told them what had occurred.</p>
7	<p>Your identity will probably have to be made known to the member against whom you are making the allegation, to the authority and to others who need to know who you are.</p> <p>Requests for confidentiality regarding names of complainants, witnesses and others corroborating evidence will not automatically be granted. If any request for confidentiality is not granted, you will be asked whether you wish to withdraw your complaint. You will be notified of the Council's decision but if the Council considers the complaint to be sufficiently serious, it may proceed with an investigation and disclose your name.</p> <p>If you wish your name to be kept confidential please set out your reasons below.</p>

	I do not need for my identity to be kept confidential.
8	Complaints must be submitted in writing using this form, including electronic submissions utilising this form which is on the council's website. If you need any assistance in completing it, please contact 01803 207481. Are you prepared, if called upon to do so, to give oral evidence in public in support of your allegation to the Standards Hearings Sub-Committee?
Signed:	
Print Name in block Capitals: Anne-Marie Bond	
Date Form received: <i>(to be filled in by Governance Support) 16 May 2024 (LA).</i>	
Please return this form to: The Monitoring Officer, c/o Governance Support, Torbay Council, Town Hall, Torquay, TQ1 3DR.	