



**Torbay Council**

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

1	Full name(s) of person(s) making allegation:	Councillor John Thomas
2	Address:	Brooke Farm Long Road Lower Yalberton Paignton TQ4 7PQ
3	Telephone Number:	01803 552721
4	Fax Number:	
5	E-Mail address:	John.thomas@torbay.gov.uk
6	Names, E-Mail addresses, and telephone numbers of any witnesses: Frances Hughes, <a href="mailto:fran.hughes@torbay.gov.uk">fran.hughes@torbay.gov.uk</a> , 01803 208002  Steve Parrock, <a href="mailto:steve.parrock@torbay.gov.uk">steve.parrock@torbay.gov.uk</a> , 01803 208973	

## Torbay Council

### Complaint against a member of the council

<b>1</b>	Against which member is your complaint being made? Councillor Richard Haddock
<b>2</b>	What do you allege the member did wrong? (State specifically what the member said and/or did) Regretfully I must refer Cllr Haddock to the Standards Committee for his Full Council comments.  Apart from being disrespectful to the Chairman, Cllr Haddock's comments were factually incorrect, critical of officers, and suggested behaviour which was improper, unprofessional and not neutral (quote "divide and rule by staff") to such an extent that the whole lawfulness of the amendment was being questioned.  This is a clear breach of the Member Officer Protocol at the most public of public meetings and cannot be overlooked.  I also believe that Cllr Haddock broke the Protocol when referring to a "junior officer" in an interview with a reporter over the Big Weekend, which led to the front page article on the Herald Express on 3rd February, leaving an impression that officers actions or inactions had cost the Bay an important events opportunity. Not only was this inaccurate, it also brought the council and officers into disrepute.  Such behaviour cannot be tolerated any longer.
<b>3</b>	Which paragraph(s) of the Members' code of conduct and / or Protocol do you say have been breached? Local Protocol on Member and Officer Relations generally but in particular paragraph 9.  Members Code of Conduct:  5(e) do anything which compromises or is likely to compromise the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the Council;  5(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.
<b>4</b>	When and where do you say the alleged breach occurred? Council meeting 3 February 2016  Herald Express Article printed on 3 February 2016

5	<p>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>
	<p>Audio recording of the Council meeting on 3 February 2016 copy of which is available at:  <a href="http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=163&amp;MId=6158&amp;Ver=4">http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=163&amp;MId=6158&amp;Ver=4</a></p> <p>Herald Express Article printed on 3 February 2016</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>Frances Hughes, <a href="mailto:fran.hughes@torbay.gov.uk">fran.hughes@torbay.gov.uk</a>, 01803 208002.</p> <p>Steve Parrock, <a href="mailto:steve.parrock@torbay.gov.uk">steve.parrock@torbay.gov.uk</a>, 01803 208973</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>

**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:** Councillor John Thomas

**Date Form received:** *(to be filled in by Governance Support)*.....

Please return this form to:  
  
The Monitoring Officer,  
c/o Governance Support,  
Torbay Council,  
Town Hall,  
Torquay,  
TQ1 3DR.