

From: Cowles, Allen-Cllr

Sent: 21 October 2016 18:26

To: Debjani Ghosh

Cc: Nesbit, Steven

Subject: Return of further powers.

hi Debjani,

As I shall be on holiday for the next two weeks, and currently pushed for time, I have been advised to write to you directly on the above issue.

UKIP oppose the return of further powers to this council on the following grounds;

To date we have seen the senior management of the authority replaced and we are now seeing prosecutions of offenders taking place, yet no councillors have held to account for their neglect in doing nothing at the time of CSE? I can say this conclusively because a list of names was made public by Jay in her report, these names also appeared in the local press. They are a list of councillors who attended a specific seminar relating to CSE and Jay concluded that those present could not say that they were not aware of what was taking place. Yet a number of these people are still on the council and some hold cabinet and chair positions. Others were identified by Casey in her subsequent report as unfit for purpose and are also still on the council, and in some cases returned to cabinet positions. In each case there has been no specific training that you could say has been provided to make them now fit for purpose. Furthermore to my knowledge neither Jay nor Casey have been contacted with regard to this unacceptable situation to get their view of what would need to be done to make them fit for purpose. And I do not believe we can ignore such people, Jay and Casey are not low ranking officials, they are the gold standard and report to government at Secretary of State level.

Neither do I accept the argument that are elected members, yes they are elected, but I do not blame the public. If they wish to vote labour they cannot be expected to carry around a list of names of those identified by Jay or Casey, the local labour leadership should have dealt with this matter and deselected them.

Worse still, we lost councillors who had been in place only 2 years because all out elections were forced upon us. How unfair is that.

Regards

Allen Cowles

Leader UKIP group.