

DRAFT LETTER

Mr Safda Zaman

Dear Mr Zaman

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE HEARING **14 MARCH 2008**

You will know that the City Council's Standards Committee considered the complaints brought by you against Councillor Ernie Hendricks and me.

The Committee unanimously concluded, on a balance of probabilities that I had breached Paragraph 2(b) of the relevant Code of Conduct for Members – i.e. failed to treat you with respect – and that I should write to you and formally apologise to you for the following reasons:-

- (i) I deviated from the right of way and trespassed on your private land despite repeated requests from you to leave your property;
- (ii) the tenor and content of the video was biased against you;
- (iii) the unedited version of the video contained factual inaccuracies which were not edited out before being placed on the internet;
- (iv) I failed to edit or qualify the contents of the edited version of the video once additional information from the Council had come to my knowledge; and
- (v) despite the request of your solicitors (although a failure to reply to the points raised in your solicitor's letter was not, by itself, considered to be a breach of the Code of Conduct for Members), I failed to not publish or destroy the video as requested by your solicitors.

I confirm that I have, as requested by the Committee, withdrawn the video from the internet and I apologise to you and your family for any distress and anxiety caused.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Martin Mullaney