

Dyddiad/ Date
Rhif Ffôn/ Direct Line
Ebost/ Email
Cyswllt/ Contact
Eich cyf / Your ref
Ein cyf/ Our ref

12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 01639 686681 <u>c.morris1@npt.gov.uk</u> Ceri Morris

Mr D Richards

On behalf of: Glynneath Residents "say enz-NO" Group

## BY EMAIL ONLY TO dai@rugbyrelics.com

Dear Mr Richards,

## Re: Complaint against Mr Steve Ball (Development Manager – Planning)

I note that on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020, you submitted a further document to the Council setting out your complaint against Mr Steve Ball, again alleging a failure to uphold the values of Neath Port Talbot Council and a breach of the Council's Employee Code of Conduct.

The Council, through my detailed investigation, has already dealt with your concerns as a Stage 2 Complaint under the Council's procedures. On the 4<sup>th</sup> May, I issued a comprehensive response informing you of the outcome of that investigation. Whilst not wishing to repeat what has already been communicated to you, I would simply take the opportunity to reiterate that Mr Ball has been found to have undertaken his duties to date in a highly professional manner and that there has been no breach of any code of conduct.

You were also advised that in the event of you being dissatisfied, you are able to make a referral to the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales via their website (<a href="www.ombudsman.wales">www.ombudsman.wales</a>). This being the case, I would suggest you take this course of action, rather than continue to submit repeated complaints to the Council.

Furthermore, I have also been made aware of the fact that you have placed details of your complaint on a webpage, with the page specifically highlighting the following statement:

"In two emails dated 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, Steve Ball failed to uphold the values of Neath Port Talbot Council as stipulated in the 2019-22 Corporate Plan and also breached the council's Employee Code of Conduct".

Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

**Ceri Morris Pennaeth Cynllunio a Gwarchod y Cyhoedd** Y Ceiau, Ffordd Brunel, Parc Ynni Baglan, Castell-nedd SA11 2GG Ffôn 01639 686868 **Environment and Regeneration** 

www.npt.gov.uk

**Ceri Morris Head of Planning and Public Protection**The Quays, Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park, Neath SA11 2GG
Phone 01639 686868

Given that this content has been proven to be entirely without merit, this public statement in my view is unacceptable and potentially libelous. I would respectfully request therefore that you remove such statements from the webpage as failure to do so does potentially leave you susceptible to legal action.

If however it remains your intention to retain such content on your webpage, then as a minimum the Council would suggest it would be appropriate for you to also include my detailed response to your allegations on the matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr Ceri Morris** 

**Head of Planning and Public Protection**