

COMPLAINT FORM

1. Your details

Please provide us with your name and contact details

Title:	Cllr
First name:	Arooj
Last name:	Shah
Address:	Leader's Office, Room 347, Civic Centre, West Street, OL1 1UL
Daytime telephone:	0161 770 5171
Evening telephone:	07974 852 391
Mobile telephone:	07974 852 391
Email address:	Arooj.shah@oldham.gov.uk

Your address and contact details will not usually be released unless necessary or to deal with your complaint.

However, we will tell the following people you have made this complaint:

- the member(s) you are complaining about
- the monitoring officer of the authority
- the parish or town clerk (if applicable)

We will tell them your name and give them a summary of your complaint. We will give them full details of your complaint where necessary or appropriate to be able to deal with it. If you have serious concerns about your name and a summary, or details of your complaint being released, please complete section three of this form.

Please tell us which complainant type best describes you:

- ☐ Member of the public
☒ An elected or co-opted member of an authority
☐ Member of Parliament
☐ Other council officer or authority employee
☐ Other ()

2. Making your complaint

A complaint is clearly a serious matter both for you and the member concerned. It is a complicated process and council staff can explain how it works in detail.

A simple summary of what will happen is:

Your complaint will be considered by the monitoring officer in consultation with the Independent Person and take a decision as to whether it merits an investigation or another course of action. This decision will normally be taken within 20 working days of receipt of a complaint. The Monitoring Officer may, in exceptional circumstances, refer the question of how to proceed to a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee.

Please provide us with the name of the member(s) you believe have breached the Code of Conduct and the name of their authority:

Title	First name	Last name	Council or authority name
Cllr	Mark	Kenyon	Oldham

Please explain in this section (or on separate sheets) what the member has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct. If you are complaining about more than one member you should explain clearly what each individual person has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct.

It is important you provide all the information you wish to have taken into account. For example:

- You should be specific, wherever possible, about exactly what you are alleging the member said or did. For instance, instead of writing the member insulted you, you should state what it was they said.
- You should provide the dates of the alleged incidents wherever possible. If you cannot provide exact dates it is important to give a general time frame.
- You should confirm whether there are any witnesses to the alleged conduct and provide their names and contact details if possible.
- You should provide any relevant background information.

Please provide us with the details of your complaint. Continue on a separate sheet if there is not enough space on this form.

On the evening of Monday 20th May, I met with two independent Councillors in my office with the Chief Executive Harry Catherall & Assistant Chief Executive Shelley Kipling. That night audio clips of our meeting were leaked to Raja Miah & Neil Wilby.

The audio was published by Raja Miah here:

Clip

1:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/6H3YN2hVwMuK9e41/?mibextid=W7C7FNe>

Clip

2:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/LKuB7ZRDu4hzhf54V/?mibextid=KsPBc6>

And Neil Wilby claims to have been sent to audio clips here:

https://x.com/Neil_Wilby/status/1792656892495564984

Having requested a copy of the CCTV on the members corridor and upon reviewing it, seeing Saddleworth West and Lees Councillor – and Liberal Democrat Group Chief Whip – Mark Kenyon loitering outside my office door listening with his ear practically pressed up against the door before he places some sort of listening device at the foot of my door, shocked me to my core.

Cllr Kenyon can clearly be seen listening to whatever device he has placed outside my office whilst he walks in and out of the Group Room – there is no conceivable explanation for his behaviour here unless he had the express permission of his Group Leader and those members present in the room.

The CCTV evidence in question can be found here: [20240520a.mp4](#) and for ease I'll talk you through the video using the timestamps of the various incidents throughout the almost two-hour video in Appendix 1 at the end of this form.

The behaviour on display here is shocking, it cannot be normalised. I have not – nor would I ever – consider bugging my opponents office under any circumstances. My other concern here is that people do tend to get caught out undertaking this type of behaviour on their first attempt. The very fact that Cllr Kenyon had sophisticated spyware on his persons readily available to record a private meeting he did not know was happening is incredibly unsettling.

The five councillors in question know the attacks I've had to deal with at the hands of both individuals that this audio was leaked to, this personal toll this took on me last week was immense. I was unable to sleep that night due to the stress and the paranoia this incident caused.

The leak itself has also caused significant abuse to both myself and Cllrs Hince & Navesey after the fact, abuse which continues to date and shows no sign of ramping down because members of the Liberal Democrat

Group chose to leak it to the individuals in question.

I expect serious action as a result of this brazen behaviour, it cannot be allowed to stand. If spying on your political opponents was a serious enough incident to bring down a President of the United States of America it cannot be tolerated in local government.

3. Confidentiality – *only complete this section if you are want your identity to be kept confidential*

In the interests of fairness and natural justice, we believe members who are complained about have a right to know who has made the complaint. We also believe they have a right to be provided with a summary of the complaint. We are unlikely to withhold your identity or the details of your complaint unless you:

- Strongly believe you are at risk of some form of reprisal, intimidation or physical harm if your identity is disclosed;
- Are an officer who works closely with the Member and is concerned about the possible consequences to your employment if your identity is disclosed;
- Suffer from a serious health condition and there are medical risks associated with your identity being disclosed.

Please note that requests for confidentiality will not be granted automatically and will be considered by the Monitoring Office. If your request for confidentiality is not granted, we will usually allow you the option of withdrawing your complaint.

Please understand in certain exceptional circumstances where the matter complained about is very serious, we can proceed with an investigation or other action and disclose your name even if you have expressly asked us not to.

Please provide us with details of why you believe we should withhold your name and/or the details of your complaint:

N/A

4. Additional Help

Complaints must be submitted in writing. This includes fax and electronic submissions. However, in line with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 2000, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist you if you have a disability that prevents you from making your complaint in writing.

We can also help if English is not your first language.

If you need any support in completing this form, please let us know as soon as possible.

5. Contacts

You should address your complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer, Paul Entwistle. His contact details are:

Paul Entwistle
Director of Legal Services
Oldham Council
Civic Centre
Room 328, Level 3
West Street
Oldham OL1 1UJ

Tel: 0161 770 4822
paul.entwistle@oldham.gov.uk

Appendix 1:

Timestamp	Approximate time	Incident
0mins	5:50pm	Start of the CCTV footage
11mins	6pm	Cllr Marc Hince, Cllr Lisa Navesey & Parish Councillor Lee Navesey arrive, and the meeting commences in the Leader's Office
55mins	6:45pm	Cllr Dave Murphy, Cllr Diane Williamson & Cllr Mark Kenyon arrive and enter the Liberal Democrats Group Room
56mins	6:46pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon listens at the back door of the Leader's Office
57mins	6:47pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon enters the disabled toilet
58mins	6:48pm	Cllr Howard Sykes and Cllr Louie Hamblett arrive and enter the LD Group Room
59mins	6:49pm	Cllr Kenyon exits the toilet and is seen to place a device at the bottom of the door of the Leader's Office & waits nearby
60mins	6:50pm	Cllr Kenyon walks towards the Liberal Democrats Group Room clearly listening in on his phone on loudspeaker
61mins	6:51pm	Cllr Kenyon enters the Liberal Democrats group room (where Cllrs Sykes, Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson are)
64mins	6:54pm	Cllr Kenyon exists the Liberal Democrats Group room and walks back up the corridor towards the Leader's Office – he stops in the corridor again and listens in on his device
67mins	6:57pm	Cllr Hamblett joins Cllr Kenyon in the corridor and heads into the kitchen (he must walk past the door at which Cllr Kenyon has placed his device to get there)
69mins	6:59pm	Cllr Hamblett re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group Room & Cllr Kenyon is seen either picking up or adjusting the device at the door of the Leader's Office
70mins	7:00pm	Cllr Kenyon can again be seen to adjust the device and continues to listen in on his phone before returning to the Liberal Democrats Group Room
75mins	7:05pm	Cllrs Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson leave the Liberal Democrats Group Room.
97mins	7:27pm	Cllrs Hine and Navesey leave my office, Cllr Kenyon is then seen to take pictures of them and follow them down the corridor – accosting them and filming them.
98mins	7:28pm	Cllr Kenyon re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group room

COMPLAINT FORM

1. Your details

Please provide us with your name and contact details

Title:	Cllr
First name:	Arooj
Last name:	Shah
Address:	Leader's Office, Room 347, Civic Centre, West Street, OL1 1UL
Daytime telephone:	0161 770 5171
Evening telephone:	07974 852 391
Mobile telephone:	07974 852 391
Email address:	Arooj.shah@oldham.gov.uk

Your address and contact details will not usually be released unless necessary or to deal with your complaint.

However, we will tell the following people you have made this complaint:

- the member(s) you are complaining about
- the monitoring officer of the authority
- the parish or town clerk (if applicable)

We will tell them your name and give them a summary of your complaint. We will give them full details of your complaint where necessary or appropriate to be able to deal with it. If you have serious concerns about your name and a summary, or details of your complaint being released, please complete section three of this form.

Please tell us which complainant type best describes you:

- ☐ Member of the public
☒ An elected or co-opted member of an authority
☐ Member of Parliament
☐ Other council officer or authority employee
☐ Other ()

2. Making your complaint

A complaint is clearly a serious matter both for you and the member concerned. It is a complicated process and council staff can explain how it works in detail.

A simple summary of what will happen is:

Your complaint will be considered by the monitoring officer in consultation with the Independent Person and take a decision as to whether it merits an investigation or another course of action. This decision will normally be taken within 20 working days of receipt of a complaint. The Monitoring Officer may, in exceptional circumstances, refer the question of how to proceed to a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee.

Please provide us with the name of the member(s) you believe have breached the Code of Conduct and the name of their authority:

Title	First name	Last name	Council or authority name
Cllr	Louie	Hamblett	Oldham

Please explain in this section (or on separate sheets) what the member has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct. If you are complaining about more than one member you should explain clearly what each individual person has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct.

It is important you provide all the information you wish to have taken into account. For example:

- You should be specific, wherever possible, about exactly what you are alleging the member said or did. For instance, instead of writing the member insulted you, you should state what it was they said.
- You should provide the dates of the alleged incidents wherever possible. If you cannot provide exact dates it is important to give a general time frame.
- You should confirm whether there are any witnesses to the alleged conduct and provide their names and contact details if possible.
- You should provide any relevant background information.

Please provide us with the details of your complaint. Continue on a separate sheet if there is not enough space on this form.

On the evening of Monday 20th May, I met with two independent Councillors in my office with the Chief Executive Harry Catherall & Assistant Chief Executive Shelley Kipling. That night audio clips of our meeting were leaked to Raja Miah & Neil Wilby.

The audio was published by Raja Miah here:

Clip

1:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/6H3YN2hVwMuK9e41/?mibextid=W C7FNe>

Clip

2:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/LKuB7ZRDu4hzhf54V/?mibextid=KsP Bc6>

And Neil Wilby claims to have been sent to audio clips here:

https://x.com/Neil_Wilby/status/1792656892495564984

Having requested a copy of the CCTV on the members corridor and upon reviewing it, seeing Saddleworth West and Lees Councillor – and Liberal Democrat Group Chief Whip – Mark Kenyon loitering outside my office door listening with his ear practically pressed up against the door before he places some sort of listening device at the foot of my door, shocked me to my core.

This brazen assault on democracy calls into question Cllr Kenyon's honesty and integrity, and the CCTV also shows that Cllr Louie Hamblett was in the Liberal Democrat Group Room on the Members Corridor whilst this spying was taking place.

Cllr Kenyon can clearly be seen listening to whatever device he has placed outside my office whilst he walks in and out of the Group Room where Cllr Hamblett is. There is no conceivable explanation where Cllr Hamblett does not know what Cllr Kenyon is doing and made no effort to prevent it happening.

The CCTV evidence in question can be found here: [20240520a.mp4](#) and for ease I'll talk you through the video using the timestamps of the various incidents throughout the almost two-hour video in Appendix 1 at the end of this form.

The behaviour on display here is shocking, it cannot be normalised. I have not – nor would I ever – consider bugging my opponents office under any circumstances. My other concern here is that people do tend to get caught out undertaking this type of behaviour on their first attempt.

The leak itself has also caused significant abuse to both myself and Cllrs Hince & Navesey after the fact, abuse which continues to date and shows no sign of ramping down because members of the Liberal Democrat Group chose to leak it to the individuals in question.

3. Confidentiality – *only complete this section if you want your identity to be kept confidential*

In the interests of fairness and natural justice, we believe members who are complained about have a right to know who has made the complaint. We also believe they have a right to be provided with a summary of the complaint. We are unlikely to withhold your identity or the details of your complaint unless you:

- Strongly believe you are at risk of some form of reprisal, intimidation or physical harm if your identity is disclosed;
- Are an officer who works closely with the Member and is concerned about the possible consequences to your employment if your identity is disclosed;
- Suffer from a serious health condition and there are medical risks associated with your identity being disclosed.

Please note that requests for confidentiality will not be granted automatically and will be considered by the Monitoring Office. If your request for confidentiality is not granted, we will usually allow you the option of withdrawing your complaint.

Please understand in certain exceptional circumstances where the matter complained about is very serious, we can proceed with an investigation or other action and disclose your name even if you have expressly asked us not to.

Please provide us with details of why you believe we should withhold your name and/or the details of your complaint:

N/A

4. Additional Help

Complaints must be submitted in writing. This includes fax and electronic submissions. However, in line with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 2000, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist you if you have a disability that prevents you from making your complaint in writing.

We can also help if English is not your first language.

If you need any support in completing this form, please let us know as soon as possible.

5. Contacts

You should address your complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer, Paul Entwistle. His contact details are:

Paul Entwistle
Director of Legal Services
Oldham Council
Civic Centre
Room 328, Level 3
West Street
Oldham OL1 1UJ

Tel: 0161 770 4822
paul.entwistle@oldham.gov.uk

Appendix 1:

Timestamp	Approximate time	Incident
0mins	5:50pm	Start of the CCTV footage
11mins	6pm	Cllr Marc Hince, Cllr Lisa Navesey & Parish Councillor Lee Navesey arrive, and the meeting commences in the Leader's Office
55mins	6:45pm	Cllr Dave Murphy, Cllr Diane Williamson & Cllr Mark Kenyon arrive and enter the Liberal Democrats Group Room
56mins	6:46pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon listens at the back door of the Leader's Office
57mins	6:47pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon enters the disabled toilet
58mins	6:48pm	Cllr Howard Sykes and Cllr Louie Hamblett arrive and enter the LD Group Room
59mins	6:49pm	Cllr Kenyon exits the toilet and is seen to place a device at the bottom of the door of the Leader's Office & waits nearby
60mins	6:50pm	Cllr Kenyon walks towards the Liberal Democrats Group Room clearly listening in on his phone on loudspeaker
61mins	6:51pm	Cllr Kenyon enters the Liberal Democrats group room (where Cllrs Sykes, Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson are)
64mins	6:54pm	Cllr Kenyon exists the Liberal Democrats Group room and walks back up the corridor towards the Leader's Office – he stops in the corridor again and listens in on his device
67mins	6:57pm	Cllr Hamblett joins Cllr Kenyon in the corridor and heads into the kitchen (he must walk past the door at which Cllr Kenyon has placed his device to get there)
69mins	6:59pm	Cllr Hamblett re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group Room & Cllr Kenyon is seen either picking up or adjusting the device at the door of the Leader's Office
70mins	7:00pm	Cllr Kenyon can again be seen to adjust the device and continues to listen in on his phone before returning to the Liberal Democrats Group Room
75mins	7:05pm	Cllrs Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson leave the Liberal Democrats Group Room.
97mins	7:27pm	Cllrs Hine and Navesey leave my office, Cllr Kenyon is then seen to take pictures of them and follow them down the corridor – accosting them and filming them.
98mins	7:28pm	Cllr Kenyon re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group room

COMPLAINT FORM

1. Your details

Please provide us with your name and contact details

Title:	Cllr
First name:	Arooj
Last name:	Shah
Address:	Leader's Office, Room 347, Civic Centre, West Street, OL1 1UL
Daytime telephone:	0161 770 5171
Evening telephone:	07974 852 391
Mobile telephone:	07974 852 391
Email address:	Arooj.shah@oldham.gov.uk

Your address and contact details will not usually be released unless necessary or to deal with your complaint.

However, we will tell the following people you have made this complaint:

- the member(s) you are complaining about
- the monitoring officer of the authority
- the parish or town clerk (if applicable)

We will tell them your name and give them a summary of your complaint. We will give them full details of your complaint where necessary or appropriate to be able to deal with it. If you have serious concerns about your name and a summary, or details of your complaint being released, please complete section three of this form.

Please tell us which complainant type best describes you:

- ☐ Member of the public
☒ An elected or co-opted member of an authority
☐ Member of Parliament
☐ Other council officer or authority employee
☐ Other ()

2. Making your complaint

A complaint is clearly a serious matter both for you and the member concerned. It is a complicated process and council staff can explain how it works in detail.

A simple summary of what will happen is:

Your complaint will be considered by the monitoring officer in consultation with the Independent Person and take a decision as to whether it merits an investigation or another course of action. This decision will normally be taken within 20 working days of receipt of a complaint. The Monitoring Officer may, in exceptional circumstances, refer the question of how to proceed to a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee.

Please provide us with the name of the member(s) you believe have breached the Code of Conduct and the name of their authority:

Title	First name	Last name	Council or authority name
Cllr	Howard	Sykes	Oldham

Please explain in this section (or on separate sheets) what the member has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct. If you are complaining about more than one member you should explain clearly what each individual person has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct.

It is important you provide all the information you wish to have taken into account. For example:

- You should be specific, wherever possible, about exactly what you are alleging the member said or did. For instance, instead of writing the member insulted you, you should state what it was they said.
- You should provide the dates of the alleged incidents wherever possible. If you cannot provide exact dates it is important to give a general time frame.
- You should confirm whether there are any witnesses to the alleged conduct and provide their names and contact details if possible.
- You should provide any relevant background information.

Please provide us with the details of your complaint. Continue on a separate sheet if there is not enough space on this form.

On the evening of Monday 20th May, I met with two independent Councillors in my office with the Chief Executive Harry Catherall & Assistant Chief Executive Shelley Kipling. That night audio clips of our meeting were leaked to Raja Miah & Neil Wilby.

The audio was published by Raja Miah here:

Clip

1:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/6H3YN2hVwMuK9e41/?mibextid=W C7FNe>

Clip

2:<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/LKuB7ZRDu4hzf54V/?mibextid=KsP Bc6>

And Neil Wilby claims to have been sent to audio clips here:

https://x.com/Neil_Wilby/status/1792656892495564984

Having requested a copy of the CCTV on the members corridor and upon reviewing it, seeing Saddleworth West and Lees Councillor – and Liberal Democrat Group Chief Whip – Mark Kenyon loitering outside my office door listening with his ear practically pressed up against the door before he places some sort of listening device at the foot of my door, shocked me to my core.

This brazen assault on democracy calls into question Cllr Kenyon's honesty and integrity, and the CCTV also shows that Cllr Howard Sykes was in the Liberal Democrat Group Room on the Members Corridor whilst this spying was taking place.

Cllr Kenyon can clearly be seen listening to whatever device he has placed outside my office whilst he walks in and out of the Group Room where Cllr Sykes is. There is no conceivable explanation where Cllr Sykes does not know what Cllr Kenyon is doing and made no effort to prevent it happening.

The CCTV evidence in question can be found here: [20240520a.mp4](#) and for ease I'll talk you through the video using the timestamps of the various incidents throughout the almost two-hour video in Appendix 1 at the end of this form.

The behaviour on display here is shocking, it cannot be normalised. I have not – nor would I ever – consider bugging my opponents office under any circumstances. My other concern here is that people do tend to get caught out undertaking this type of behaviour on their first attempt.

The leak itself has also caused significant abuse to both myself and Cllrs Hince & Navesey after the fact, abuse which continues to date and shows no sign of ramping down because members of the Liberal Democrat Group chose to leak it to the individuals in question.

3. Confidentiality – *only complete this section if you want your identity to be kept confidential*

In the interests of fairness and natural justice, we believe members who are complained about have a right to know who has made the complaint. We also believe they have a right to be provided with a summary of the complaint. We are unlikely to withhold your identity or the details of your complaint unless you:

- Strongly believe you are at risk of some form of reprisal, intimidation or physical harm if your identity is disclosed;
- Are an officer who works closely with the Member and is concerned about the possible consequences to your employment if your identity is disclosed;
- Suffer from a serious health condition and there are medical risks associated with your identity being disclosed.

Please note that requests for confidentiality will not be granted automatically and will be considered by the Monitoring Office. If your request for confidentiality is not granted, we will usually allow you the option of withdrawing your complaint.

Please understand in certain exceptional circumstances where the matter complained about is very serious, we can proceed with an investigation or other action and disclose your name even if you have expressly asked us not to.

Please provide us with details of why you believe we should withhold your name and/or the details of your complaint:

N/A

4. Additional Help

Complaints must be submitted in writing. This includes fax and electronic submissions. However, in line with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 2000, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist you if you have a disability that prevents you from making your complaint in writing.

We can also help if English is not your first language.

If you need any support in completing this form, please let us know as soon as possible.

5. Contacts

You should address your complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer, Paul Entwistle. His contact details are:

Paul Entwistle
Director of Legal Services
Oldham Council
Civic Centre
Room 328, Level 3
West Street
Oldham OL1 1UJ

Tel: 0161 770 4822
paul.entwistle@oldham.gov.uk

Appendix 1:

Timestamp	Approximate time	Incident
0mins	5:50pm	Start of the CCTV footage
11mins	6pm	Cllr Marc Hince, Cllr Lisa Navesey & Parish Councillor Lee Navesey arrive, and the meeting commences in the Leader's Office
55mins	6:45pm	Cllr Dave Murphy, Cllr Diane Williamson & Cllr Mark Kenyon arrive and enter the Liberal Democrats Group Room
56mins	6:46pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon listens at the back door of the Leader's Office
57mins	6:47pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon enters the disabled toilet
58mins	6:48pm	Cllr Howard Sykes and Cllr Louie Hamblett arrive and enter the LD Group Room
59mins	6:49pm	Cllr Kenyon exits the toilet and is seen to place a device at the bottom of the door of the Leader's Office & waits nearby
60mins	6:50pm	Cllr Kenyon walks towards the Liberal Democrats Group Room clearly listening in on his phone on loudspeaker
61mins	6:51pm	Cllr Kenyon enters the Liberal Democrats group room (where Cllrs Sykes, Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson are)
64mins	6:54pm	Cllr Kenyon exists the Liberal Democrats Group room and walks back up the corridor towards the Leader's Office – he stops in the corridor again and listens in on his device
67mins	6:57pm	Cllr Hamblett joins Cllr Kenyon in the corridor and heads into the kitchen (he must walk past the door at which Cllr Kenyon has placed his device to get there)
69mins	6:59pm	Cllr Hamblett re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group Room & Cllr Kenyon is seen either picking up or adjusting the device at the door of the Leader's Office
70mins	7:00pm	Cllr Kenyon can again be seen to adjust the device and continues to listen in on his phone before returning to the Liberal Democrats Group Room
75mins	7:05pm	Cllrs Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson leave the Liberal Democrats Group Room.
97mins	7:27pm	Cllrs Hine and Navesey leave my office, Cllr Kenyon is then seen to take pictures of them and follow them down the corridor – accosting them and filming them.
98mins	7:28pm	Cllr Kenyon re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group room

COMPLAINT FORM

1. Your details

Please provide us with your name and contact details

Title:	Cllr
First name:	Arooj
Last name:	Shah
Address:	Leader's Office, Room 347, Civic Centre, West Street, OL1 1UL
Daytime telephone:	0161 770 5171
Evening telephone:	07974 852 391
Mobile telephone:	07974 852 391
Email address:	Arooj.shah@oldham.gov.uk

Your address and contact details will not usually be released unless necessary or to deal with your complaint.

However, we will tell the following people you have made this complaint:

- the member(s) you are complaining about
- the monitoring officer of the authority
- the parish or town clerk (if applicable)

We will tell them your name and give them a summary of your complaint. We will give them full details of your complaint where necessary or appropriate to be able to deal with it. If you have serious concerns about your name and a summary, or details of your complaint being released, please complete section three of this form.

Please tell us which complainant type best describes you:

- ☐ Member of the public
☒ An elected or co-opted member of an authority
☐ Member of Parliament
☐ Other council officer or authority employee
☐ Other ()

2. Making your complaint

A complaint is clearly a serious matter both for you and the member concerned. It is a complicated process and council staff can explain how it works in detail.

A simple summary of what will happen is:

Your complaint will be considered by the monitoring officer in consultation with the Independent Person and take a decision as to whether it merits an investigation or another course of action. This decision will normally be taken within 20 working days of receipt of a complaint. The Monitoring Officer may, in exceptional circumstances, refer the question of how to proceed to a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee.

Please provide us with the name of the member(s) you believe have breached the Code of Conduct and the name of their authority:

Title	First name	Last name	Council or authority name
Cllr	Dave	Murphy	Oldham

Please explain in this section (or on separate sheets) what the member has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct. If you are complaining about more than one member you should explain clearly what each individual person has done that you believe breaches the Code of Conduct.

It is important you provide all the information you wish to have taken into account. For example:

- You should be specific, wherever possible, about exactly what you are alleging the member said or did. For instance, instead of writing the member insulted you, you should state what it was they said.
- You should provide the dates of the alleged incidents wherever possible. If you cannot provide exact dates it is important to give a general time frame.
- You should confirm whether there are any witnesses to the alleged conduct and provide their names and contact details if possible.
- You should provide any relevant background information.

Please provide us with the details of your complaint. Continue on a separate sheet if there is not enough space on this form.

On the evening of Monday 20th May, I met with two independent Councillors in my office with the Chief Executive Harry Catherall & Assistant Chief Executive Shelley Kipling. That night audio clips of our meeting were leaked to Raja Miah & Neil Wilby.

The audio was published by Raja Miah here:

Clip

1: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/6H3YN2hVwMuK9e41/?mibextid=W C7FNe>

Clip

2: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/LKuB7ZRDu4hzf54V/?mibextid=KsP Bc6>

And Neil Wilby claims to have been sent to audio clips here:

https://x.com/Neil_Wilby/status/1792656892495564984

Having requested a copy of the CCTV on the members corridor and upon reviewing it, seeing Saddleworth West and Lees Councillor – and Liberal Democrat Group Chief Whip – Mark Kenyon loitering outside my office door listening with his ear practically pressed up against the door before he places some sort of listening device at the foot of my door, shocked me to my core.

This brazen assault on democracy calls into question Cllr Kenyon's honesty and integrity, and the CCTV also shows that Cllr Dave Murphy was in the Liberal Democrat Group Room on the Members Corridor whilst this spying was taking place.

Cllr Kenyon can clearly be seen listening to whatever device he has placed outside my office whilst he walks in and out of the Group Room where Cllr Murphy is. There is no conceivable explanation where Cllr Murphy does not know what Cllr Kenyon is doing and made no effort to prevent it happening.

The CCTV evidence in question can be found here: [20240520a.mp4](#) and for ease I'll talk you through the video using the timestamps of the various incidents throughout the almost two-hour video in Appendix 1 at the end of this form.

The behaviour on display here is shocking, it cannot be normalised. I have not – nor would I ever – consider bugging my opponents office under any circumstances. My other concern here is that people do tend to get caught out undertaking this type of behaviour on their first attempt.

The leak itself has also caused significant abuse to both myself and Cllrs Hince & Navesey after the fact, abuse which continues to date and shows no sign of ramping down because members of the Liberal Democrat Group chose to leak it to the individuals in question.

3. Confidentiality – *only complete this section if you want your identity to be kept confidential*

In the interests of fairness and natural justice, we believe members who are complained about have a right to know who has made the complaint. We also believe they have a right to be provided with a summary of the complaint. We are unlikely to withhold your identity or the details of your complaint unless you:

- Strongly believe you are at risk of some form of reprisal, intimidation or physical harm if your identity is disclosed;
- Are an officer who works closely with the Member and is concerned about the possible consequences to your employment if your identity is disclosed;
- Suffer from a serious health condition and there are medical risks associated with your identity being disclosed.

Please note that requests for confidentiality will not be granted automatically and will be considered by the Monitoring Office. If your request for confidentiality is not granted, we will usually allow you the option of withdrawing your complaint.

Please understand in certain exceptional circumstances where the matter complained about is very serious, we can proceed with an investigation or other action and disclose your name even if you have expressly asked us not to.

Please provide us with details of why you believe we should withhold your name and/or the details of your complaint:

N/A

4. Additional Help

Complaints must be submitted in writing. This includes fax and electronic submissions. However, in line with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 2000, we can make reasonable adjustments to assist you if you have a disability that prevents you from making your complaint in writing.

We can also help if English is not your first language.

If you need any support in completing this form, please let us know as soon as possible.

5. Contacts

You should address your complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer, Paul Entwistle. His contact details are:

Paul Entwistle
Director of Legal Services
Oldham Council
Civic Centre
Room 328, Level 3
West Street
Oldham OL1 1UJ

Tel: 0161 770 4822
paul.entwistle@oldham.gov.uk

Appendix 1:

Timestamp	Approximate time	Incident
0mins	5:50pm	Start of the CCTV footage
11mins	6pm	Cllr Marc Hince, Cllr Lisa Navesey & Parish Councillor Lee Navesey arrive, and the meeting commences in the Leader's Office
55mins	6:45pm	Cllr Dave Murphy, Cllr Diane Williamson & Cllr Mark Kenyon arrive and enter the Liberal Democrats Group Room
56mins	6:46pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon listens at the back door of the Leader's Office
57mins	6:47pm	Cllr Mark Kenyon enters the disabled toilet
58mins	6:48pm	Cllr Howard Sykes and Cllr Louie Hamblett arrive and enter the LD Group Room
59mins	6:49pm	Cllr Kenyon exits the toilet and is seen to place a device at the bottom of the door of the Leader's Office & waits nearby
60mins	6:50pm	Cllr Kenyon walks towards the Liberal Democrats Group Room clearly listening in on his phone on loudspeaker
61mins	6:51pm	Cllr Kenyon enters the Liberal Democrats group room (where Cllrs Sykes, Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson are)
64mins	6:54pm	Cllr Kenyon exists the Liberal Democrats Group room and walks back up the corridor towards the Leader's Office – he stops in the corridor again and listens in on his device
67mins	6:57pm	Cllr Hamblett joins Cllr Kenyon in the corridor and heads into the kitchen (he must walk past the door at which Cllr Kenyon has placed his device to get there)
69mins	6:59pm	Cllr Hamblett re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group Room & Cllr Kenyon is seen either picking up or adjusting the device at the door of the Leader's Office
70mins	7:00pm	Cllr Kenyon can again be seen to adjust the device and continues to listen in on his phone before returning to the Liberal Democrats Group Room
75mins	7:05pm	Cllrs Hamblett, Murphy and Williamson leave the Liberal Democrats Group Room.
97mins	7:27pm	Cllrs Hine and Navesey leave my office, Cllr Kenyon is then seen to take pictures of them and follow them down the corridor – accosting them and filming them.
98mins	7:28pm	Cllr Kenyon re-enters the Liberal Democrats Group room