

# “LGA in Practice

## Investigations

*125 Bowes Road, North Circular Road, Palmers Green, London, N13 4SB*  
*Tel: 020 8889 0811 \*\*\*\*\* Fax: 020 8373 3246*

27 March 2008

Mr Steven Quayle  
Monitoring Officer,  
Slough Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Bath Road  
Slough,  
Berkshire  
SL1 3UQ

Dear Mr Quayle,

**Reference: Local Investigation SBE 15688.06**

Further to your letter dated 18 March 2008 and our previous correspondence and conversations, I am now in a position to make representations regarding the chronology of events and the current status of the investigation.

We received instructions from you to conduct this investigation by way of letter dated 23 May 2007.

The complainant, Ms Key, and the subject member, Cllr Hewitt, were both written to on the 13 June advising them of your instructions and also that we would be contacting them with a view to conduct interviews.

Upon speaking with Ms Key, we were advised that she did not wish to pursue her complaint. With regards to Cllr Hewitt, as we did not receive any response, we contacted the member again twice by telephone on 21 June 2007 and 29 June 2007 where messages were left on both occasions. To date we have not received any response.

We then wrote to you on the 2 July 2007 expressing our concerns that the complainant did not wish to pursue this matter and also that we were unable to make contact with the subject member. We also requested that the Standards Committee consider taking steps to terminate the investigation.

We then spoke on 4 October 2007 where we emailed you a copy of our letter dated 2 July 2007. Your response via email on 5 October 2007 requested us to contact Ms Key again in order for her to make a statement confirming that she did not wish to offer any evidence so that you could then put the matter to the Standards Committee for determination. We were unable to do this and advised you accordingly.

## APPENDIX A

We then made contact with you again to advise you that we were unable to make any further progress with the investigation and requested that the Standards Committee make some sort of direction in that the investigation progresses irrespective of co-operation from the complainant or the subject member, or that the investigation is terminated.

Since that time, as communicated to you by way of letter dated 5 March 2008, we have not allocated any further resources to the investigation, and as agreed with you, we would not make any charge for the time spent thus far on the case. For your information, since your instructions on this matter, we have conducted some background checks and research in order for us to complete interviews with witnesses and Cllr Hewitt.

I hope this information assists you and the Standards Committee in coming to a final decision on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Kris Malde  
**Chief Investigator**