

From: [Complaints](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to email dated 26 July 2013
Date: 10 September 2013 10:09:00
Attachments: [REDACTED] [20130910_ResponseToEmailDated26July2013.doc](#)
[REDACTED] [20130627_Response.msg](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached a letter responding to your email dated 26 July 2013, together with a copy of the email dated 27 June 2013 which is referred to in the letter.

We would like to offer our apologies for the delay in responding to your email and hope it has not inconvenienced you.

Kind regards

Philippa Bullen
Corporate Communications Officer

Equality and Human Rights Commission
2nd Floor Arndale House
The Arndale Centre
Manchester
M4 3AQ

Email: xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Tel: 0161 829 8323
Text Phone: 0203 117 0238
Fax: 0161 829 8332

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 July 2013 17:05
To: Complaints
Cc: Mark Hammond
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] 20130726 Response

Dear EHRC

Thank you for your email. I must express my dismay that my complaint has not been taken seriously. I attach a letter from Mr Wadham. This letter along with the bundle of dialogue has led me to believe that the promises made by Doncaster Council to its citizens and EHRC regarding addressing ongoing and deep rooted equalities failings would have by now been addressed. Here we are in 2012, black and minority ethnic citizens are still waiting for Doncaster Council to produce a cogent Equalities Objectives and Action Plan

It is in this context that I am complaining as I feel it is incumbent upon EHRC as a matter of last resort to issue a compliance notice for public authorities that wilfully put two fingers up to the Equality Act and PSED. I would like EHRC to continue the dialogue with Doncaster Council to simply ensure that they are delivering equality and fairness in everything they do. I would appreciate an update as indicated from Mr Wadham letter regarding what actions are EHRC taking after apparently exhausting all options to ensure that Doncaster Council actually complies with PSED by the implementation of actions which make a difference and addresses some of the deep rooted racial inequalities.

I look forward to having this matter resolved at the earliest opportunity, including inviting EHRC into Doncaster to hear the concerns of diverse communities.

Have a nice weekend.

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Complaints <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx>

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Fri, 26 Jul 2013 14:45

Subject: [REDACTED] 20130726 Response

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached our response to your email dated 16 July 2013.

Yours sincerely

Oliver Varney

Corporate Communications Officer

Equality and Human Rights Commission

2nd Floor Arndale House

The Arndale Centre

Manchester

M4 3AQ

Email: xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

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Our vision

A society built on fairness and respect. People confident in all aspects of their diversity.

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Attached Message

Subject: FW: Formal Complaint

Date:

From: [REDACTED]

To: "Mark Hammond" <xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx>

Subject: Fwd: Formal Complaint

Dear Mr Hammond.

I am contacting you in your capacity as Chief Executive of the EHRC.

I would like to initiate a formal complaint against EHRC for its failure to take action against Doncaster Council re: PSED and the victimisation against those amongst us who have challenged the deep rooted and endemic governance and equalities failures.

I am forwarding the FOI response which was kindly sent to me from your organisation. As you can see this illustrates the dishonesty and racism at the heart of Doncaster Council. It is one thing BME Community members being hoodwinked. It is a sad indictment of where EHRC is when an apparent blind eye is being turned towards serious contravening of Equalities Legislation.

I attach the breaking news today. RT. Hon. Michael Gove has taken the unprecedented step to withdraw children services from Doncaster Council. The impact of the failures on families and young children can not be under-estimated. And yet EHRC have done nothing to ensure that the basic rights of these people were protected, including during the time when Mayor Peter Davies anti-diversity policies were aggressively being implemented without "due regard"!

Promises that were made to EHCR by DMBC have been cynically reneged upon. The failure by EHRC to investigate and issue a much needed compliance notice provides the context in which I make this complaint. I trust I will receive a fair hearing - enough is enough!

Best Wishes.



CC 1/8

Doncaster council to be stripped of children's services

[http://news.bbcimg.co.uk/media/images/68429000/jpg/_68429551_68429550.jpg]Michael Gove said an independent trust would run Doncaster's children's services for up to 10 years

Continue reading the main story<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-23324587#story_continues_1>

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Doncaster council will be stripped of control of its children's services because of a "legacy of failure", the education secretary has announced.

Michael Gove said he would appoint an independent trust to run the service, which has been under government supervision since 2009, for 10 years.

A report said a "decisive break" was needed to move on from failings that saw seven children die in five years.

Mayor of Doncaster Ros Jones said she was "deeply disappointed".

In March 2009, the government ordered a takeover of Doncaster's children's services following the deaths of seven children in the district through abuse or neglect over five years<<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7824400.stm>>.

Less than a year later a serious case review found the attacks in the nearby town of Edlington in which two young boys were tortured by two brothers, aged 11 and 12,<<http://bbc.in/3gprMS>> had been "preventable". 'Mammoth ship'

The new report<<http://bit.ly/12G9caG>> said: "There needs to be a line drawn under the historic failure, a separation that permits the development of a new culture - one of development, improvement and innovation, instead of one of frustration, disillusion and stagnation."

Continue reading the main story<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-23324587#story_continues_2>

Analysis

[http://news.bbcimg.co.uk/media/images/63383000/jpg/_63383378_james.jpg]James VincentBBC Sheffield political reporter

Many thought Doncaster's reputation could not get any worse. It just did.

The council now has the distinction of being the first ever to have its children's services department forcibly removed and handed over to an independent trust.

Question marks about the council stretch back nearly a decade, but after the government took control in 2009 there are people asking whether ministers could have done more to turn the department around.

According to the report the new independent body will be set up by April but there are concerns that timescale is too tight.

Trade unions will be concerned about the rights of staff who will be transferred to the new organisation, but the report does try to allay fears about the service being privatised.

The council wanted more time to prove they could turn children's services around but the clock just stopping ticking and this is a fundamental change in how Doncaster keeps children safe.

The review, commissioned by Education Secretary Michael Gove, was written by academic Julian Le Grand, Alan Wood, the director of children's services in Hackney, and Dame Moira Gibb, chair of the Social Work Reform Board.

Writing to Mrs Jones, Mr Gove said:<<http://bit.ly/190cfmy>> "Given this assessment, I agree with the recommendations and will now seek to put them into effect."

He said he hoped the trust would be operational by April 2014 and that Mr Wood would be appointed to oversee the transfer of power from the council to the new body.

"The review panel recommends that, when improvements to the service are secure and confidence in Doncaster Council's ability to deliver children's social care functions is gained, those services should return to council control," he wrote.

"My intention is therefore to establish the trust for a 10-year period, with a review point after five years.

"Progress of both the trust and the council's capacity to deliver its functions can be assessed at that stage and a decision taken as to whether the continue."

Mr Gove pledged £250,000 to the council to contribute towards the costs of running children's services in the interim.

Mrs Jones, who was elected as mayor of Doncaster in May and immediately announced she would prioritise children's services, said the report had not given her administration a chance to act.

She said: "We will do what's best for the children of Doncaster and would never walk away from it.

"I believe that internally we could have actually worked along, got everyone on board and started turning around what is a mammoth ship.

"I'm deeply disappointed. We will do what's needed in order to make sure our kids are safe but I believe that this is too presumptuous.

"They've not given us a chance with the people that we've brought in with a national reputation of turning round children's services to take it forward."

In June the council announced private consultancy firm Impower would take over management of the department from 1 July as the authority's "improvement partner" under the direction of Eleanor Brazil.

Ms Brazil was interim deputy director of children and families services following the death of Peter Connelly, also known as Baby P, in 2007 after social workers missed signs of abuse.

The report said it favoured an independent trust over a private sector partner model as, while more costly to set up, it could be "tailor-made" for Doncaster, less disruptive to staff, and, if set up as a not-for-profit organisation would "allay public concerns about the risk of privatisation".

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26 MARCH 2013, SHEFFIELD & SOUTH YORKSHIRE

From other news sites

-----Original Message-----

From: Freedom of Information <xxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thu, 27 Jun 2013 16:41

Subject: [REDACTED] 20130627 Response

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached our response to your Freedom of Information request dated 02 May 2013.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you encounter any difficulties opening the attachments to this cover email.

Kind regards

Oliver Varney

Corporate Communications Officer

Equality and Human Rights Commission
2nd Floor Arndale House
The Arndale Centre
Manchester
M4 3AQ

Email: xxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx <<mailto:xxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>>

Tel: 0161 829 8324

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