

# Case Summary - Ellistown and Battleflat Parish Council (NW Leicestershire)

**Case no.** SFE-000116  
**Member(s):** Councillor Emily Weston  
**Date received:** 01 Dec 2010  
**Date completed:** 31 Mar 2011

## **Allegation:**

The member failed to treat others with respect

## **Standards Board outcome:**

The ethical standards officer found that the member did not breach the Code of Conduct.

## **Case Summary**

It was alleged that Councillor Weston accused a councillor of sending letters to the District Council and signing them in the name of the parish clerk at the council meeting.

The Ethical Standards Officer found that Councillor Weston questioned an individual councillor about a letter that the Council had received from the District Council, which referenced a complaint it stated had been made by the clerk on behalf of the Council. The Ethical Standards Officer thought it was understandable that Councillor Weston would try to find an explanation for a letter from the District Council that made reference to a complaint that the Council had never submitted. Furthermore, the Ethical Standards Officer found that Councillor Weston had already been made aware that a councillor had been looking into the issue raised in the complaint on behalf of his constituents. In those circumstances, the Ethical Standards Officer considered it reasonable that she would first ask him about the letter.

It was also alleged that Councillor Weston said at a standards committee meeting that she was a solicitor when she was not; told another councillor that she and others were going to “stuff him”; and told a councillor that he could not touch her because a senior officer at the District Council had been her teacher.

The Ethical Standards Officer found that Councillor Weston had not acted as alleged. The Ethical Standards Officer considered that Councillor Emily Weston did not fail to comply with Ellistown and Battleflat Parish Council’s code of conduct

## **Relevant paragraphs of the Code of Conduct**

Paragraph 3:

“(1) You must treat others with respect.

**26 May 2011**