

Response to Draft Report into complaint made by Helen Osman against Cllr Daniel Anderson

By rejecting this complaint against Cllr Anderson, Olwen Dutton of Anthony Collins is inferring that it is acceptable for the office holder of Cabinet Member for the Environment, to be posting on a partisan Facebook page 'Better Streets 4 Enfield'.

Yet in doing so, he has breached important principles of objectivity and impartiality which are the duty to his public office.

Secondly, that it is acceptable to use this Facebook page to make a personal attack on me.

Thirdly, by inference that I am in some way "misleading people" – whether in the west or the east. No 'evidence' has been provided for this.

In summary; there is ample evidence to show that Daniel Anderson was posting on this Facebook page in support of Cycle Enfield and he was known to be the leader of the scheme amongst group members. It is impossible to separate his public role from his private role.

The key argument for dismissing this complaint is that Cllr Anderson was posting as a private individual.

To quote:

Due to the provisions of s27(2) of the Localism Act 2011, it is important to consider whether or not the Code applied at the time of the incident complained of. **The Code would not apply when an elected member was acting in his private capacity.** Enfield Council's Code (which is attached in Appendix 7) only applies to Cllr Anderson where he acts or purports to act in his capacity as a Member of the Council. It does not seek to regulate acts and conduct by Cllr Anderson in his private and personal life. Therefore if the evidence shows that Cllr Anderson made Post 1 and Post 2 outside his role as a councillor there is no breach of the Code.

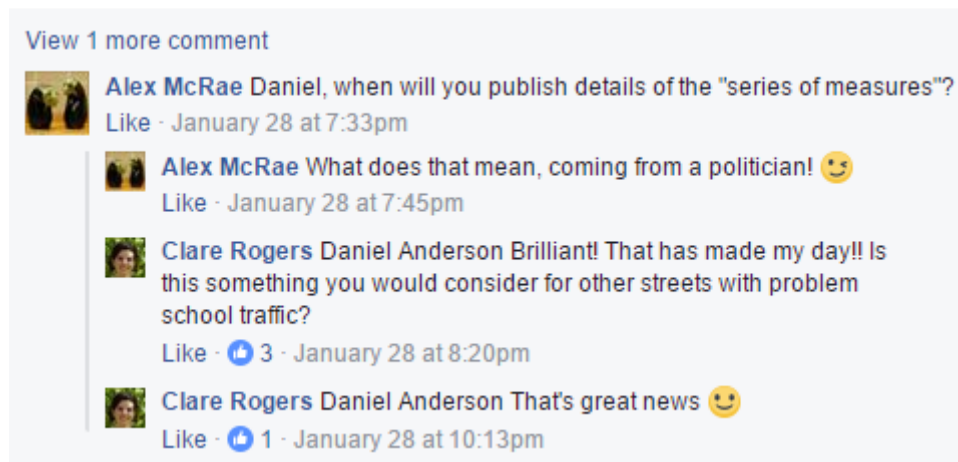
However, Cllr Anderson was posting on the Facebook page precisely because he is leading the Cycle Enfield project and was widely referred to as such by members of this group as Councillor Daniel Anderson, Daniel Anderson and even Daniel.

Indeed he has posed with members of this group for photographs.





How can he possibly be considered to be posing in a private capacity?

This post on the Facebook page relates specifically to his role as Cabinet member.



There are numerous examples on posts on this Facebook page and others associated with this group that demonstrates his support for the people who belong to this group. It is hard to conclude the claim that Cllr Anderson was not known to this community and that his posts were not related to his political role.

For example these recent posts in February 2017, including a post from Councillor Alan Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Business Development, whose remit covers local high streets. Cllr Anderson is been urged to take part in a flash cycle mob to demonstrate the support for the very same businesses who are currently losing thousands of pounds of business as a result of the cycle lane construction and whose long term future is uncertain.


  21

1 share

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 **Alan Sitkin** Choose a Saturday in early March-ish...time enough to publicise..where late morning we all cycle to the shops wherever the road works are currently taking place, with our wallets in our hands. [Clare Rogers](#) [Daniel Anderson](#) Wanna suggest a date?
Like ·  1 · February 16 at 10:51am

  [Claire Brady](#) replied · 8 Replies

 **Gill Beadle** Great idea to show support for the Green Lanes traders. i already buy from a lot of shops along Green Lanes Winchmore hill section. Be great to see a more positive focus.
Like · February 17 at 8:19am · Edited

 **Ahmet Oyken** I will join you guys, with my bike
Like ·  1 · 14 hrs

  [Ahmet Oyken](#) replied · 2 Replies

 **Claire Brady** Hopefully I can make it. Love shopping, so spending a morning shopping should make me very happy ❤️
Like ·  1 · 13 hrs · Edited

 **Alan Sitkin** I'll be wearing my Enfield Big Bike Ride high viz jacket
Like ·  1 · 13 hrs

  [Clare Rogers](#) replied · 5 Replies · 4 hrs

 **Maggie Davis Westhead** Me and the girls and the boy will be there!
Like ·  1 · 13 hrs

 **Adrian Day** Away that weekend I'm afraid.
Like · 2 hrs

  [Clare Rogers](#) replied · 1 Reply

 **Alan Sitkin** What's our meeting place [Clare Rogers](#) ? Because I think Daniel Anderson and I might be able to help publicise this more widely...
Like ·  1 · 2 hrs

 **Clare Rogers** Where is the epicentre of the roadworks would you say? I was thinking the 'triangle' in Winchmore Hill which is where the Cycle cash mob met last time...
Like · 1 hr



Clare Rogers Fantastic!

Like · 3 hrs



Clare Rogers Daniel Anderson you could combine the environment and cycle lane bits of your portfolio with this bike for Enfield 😊

Like · 1 · 3 hrs

↳ 1 Reply



Calvin Tucker I was in Ghana a few years ago visiting a major client 'Zoomlion'. The CEO was amazed when I asked to join the bin men on their early morning rubbish collection in one of the rougher parts of town.
<http://4.bp.blogspot.com/.../LpWkpOe5XZ0/s1600/DSCF5236.JPG>



Like · 3 · 3 hrs

View 1 more comment



Alex McRae Clare, we've also contacted Cllr Daniel Anderson to bring it to his attention viz-a-vis the 2 schools in Autumn Close, in Edmonton.

Like · 3 · February 8 at 10:40am



Alex McRae replied · 2 Replies



Will Embliss They could put some at the end of Tile Kiln Lane for the pupils at

It would seem that Cllr Anderson has even been endorsing Better Streets For Enfield in the Council's own magazine.

 **David Hilliard** ▸ [Better Streets for Enfield](#)
October 11, 2016 · London · 🌐

Good to see a very prominent piece on the start of Cycle Enfield work in the "Our Enfield" council magazine. I believe it is distributed to all households in the borough. Should start to help dispel the widespread impression that the cycle lane proposals have hit the buffers. Interesting how the quote from Daniel Anderson includes our [Better Streets for Enfield](#) moniker!



The image shows two magazine covers side-by-side. The left cover is titled 'CYCLE ENFIELD WORK STARTS' and features a construction worker in a high-visibility vest. The right cover is titled 'OUR ENFIELD' and features a rider on a horse, with the text 'Golden Girl'.

👍 16 1 Comment

Posts by Daniel Anderson have been deleted from this Facebook group, including the ones which form the basis of this complaint. Here are further examples on Better Streets For Enfield that make clear reference to his role in Cycle Enfield.

 **Clare Rogers** shared a Page to the group: [Better Streets for Enfield](#)
January 19 at 11:58am · 🌐

The Guardian article that Daniel Anderson and I were interviewed for is being discussed over at the Cycle [Enfield](#) Facebook page. It's descended into a general whinge about cycle lanes. Some views from [Better Streets](#) members would be welcome! (Just click on the image below to get to the Facebook page)



The image is a screenshot of a Facebook page for 'Cycle Enfield'. The page header shows the name 'Cycle Enfield' and 'Community · 1,408 Likes'. Below the header is a photo of a group of people with bicycles. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a 'Like Page' button.



This post, which was made shortly after the altercation at the Palmers Green Library between Maxine Spencer of Pounds and Cllr Anderson. He was clearly recognised as the responsibility holder by Keith Hepburn, who could clearly see that this was an unwise post. Whether he knows Mr Hepburn or not is irrelevant.

In these posts Cllr Anderson is referred to sometimes just by his name and sometimes using his full title, interchangeably.

I note in Cllr Anderson's statement that he is denying the incident at Palmers Green Library ever took place. However, there were numerous witnesses who can provide a statement. Indeed it was almost certainly this incident that prompted Cllr Anderson to mention Pounds in this Facebook post.



References to Helen Osman

By rejecting this complaint implies support for Cllr Anderson's suggestion that I am misleading local people.

This is troubling. I would like him to provide ONE example of where I am supposed to have 'mislead' people.

One among many critics of Cycle Enfield

I am just one of many thousands of people who have expressed alarm at this project; the congestion it would cause, the extra pollution, disadvantaging the elderly, creating greater danger for all road users and damaging our businesses.

The Council Conduct Committee is invited to view the document **'The residents of Enfield speak out against Enfield Mini Holland'**, containing over 1600 comments and statements from people in the local area who are disgusted by the undemocratic way in which this cycle lane has been imposed on local people.

This is roughly the same number of people who submitted objections in the three week statutory consultation, which were summarily dismissed by Cllr Anderson as offering "nothing new under the sun".

Support for local businesses

Having come from a marketing/management consultancy background, it was not difficult for me to see the serious flaws in the Regeneris methodology and modelling used in the economic risk reports commissioned by Enfield Council.

I have examined in detail three reports, on the A105, Enfield Town and Ponders End schemes. The reports are available for the committee to read.

Please note that the A105 report was written over one weekend as the full report was not released until Friday afternoon, ahead of submissions to be made to the A105 Partnership Board by noon on Monday

[Critique of the A105 economic risk assessment report](#)

[Critique of the Ponders End economic risk report](#)

[Critique of the Enfield Town economic risk report](#)

It now seems that the concerns about the validity of the modelling for the A105 was not misplaced. Here are the links to the snapshots of recent trading since the A105 construction work began. Business owners report losing around 25% - 35% of turnover, on average, with some businesses owners reporting that their sales are down by 70%. Please note I was not involved in this research

[Masons Corner to Compton Road survey](#)

[Church Street and Bush Hill Road junction](#)

I must also refute Cllr Anderson when he states that “the councils held public meetings with the residents and businesses and recognises that some had issues with the principles of the scheme”. Public exhibitions were held attended by a relatively small number of local people. Public meetings were organised by campaign groups, community groups and residents associations but perhaps Cllr Anderson could inform me when a public meeting was organised by the council?

Businesses along Green Lanes made numerous attempts to invite Cllr Anderson, Cllr Bambous Charalambous and Cllr Sitkin to meet with them but they all declined to do so

Cllr Anderson denies that he has refused to meet with business owners since he was appointed to the role. He dismissed all warnings from businesses and residents about the likely impact on the business community, both during and after the completion of the cycle lanes.

Cllr Anderson’s statement about preaching in the mosque

The circumstances leading up to the posting by Cllr Anderson against me personally are irrelevant, but even to have linked my name which has Middle Eastern connections in connection with a mosque is bizarre.

Numerous people have told me that it conjures up unsavoury images of Abu Hamza preaching in the Finsbury Park Mosque, seeking to radicalise people to commit heinous crimes. My husband’s family have traced back their ancestry in England for several generations.

Cllr Daniel Anderson is clearly not showing respect for others in his personal comment, whatever the background reasons behind this post, there are no mitigating circumstances. If he was alerted to a meeting at the Mosque by members concerned about loss of parking this was not anything to do with me. This accusatory post should not have been put on Facebook.

I was asked to review the Ponders End report undertaken by Regeneris by a local business owner, who was concerned about the proposals. I understand that a leaflet was produced and circulated to encourage people to take part on the Cycle Enfield consultations for the A1010, Hertford Road but I had no involvement in any aspect of this.

In conclusion, it is hard to conclude anything other than that Daniel Anderson was posting on this partisan Facebook page in direct connection with his role as the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Cycle Enfield and was seen by group members as such.

This is in clear contravention of the code of conduct. A senior councillor in this role must “adhere to the highest ethical standards of behaviour”. He has been charged to remain impartial and weigh up all the evidence, risks etc objectively, leading a full risk assessment and cost benefit analysis, this is a clear dereliction of his position.

There have been many hundreds of complaints lodged against the consultation process by local residents, businesses, charities and community groups. This is outside the remit of this complaint but confirms the total disrespect for the wishes of local residents.

Helen Osman

21.2.17