

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 01 October 2021 09:08

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Forum Support Group

Thank you [REDACTED]

I will step away from this now and leave in [REDACTED]' capable hands.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 30 September 2021 18:11

Thank you [REDACTED] for acting so swiftly and providing this update
I am copying in [REDACTED], as I will need guidance on what I can release to the forum, other than a copy of the tweet.

It is helpful to know that this is a contract of employment, rather than a voluntary role.

With regard the other parent, the issue is that they are attending engagement / co-production events purporting to be representing the forum, whereas, members of the SG had confirmed that this person was no longer a member, nor were named others who are campaigning parents. Hence we had asked for a list of SG and members so that we could be clear who was actually representing SG.

It is indeed very depressing, and we really feel for you and those forum members who have put in so much time and effort to make this work.

As explained, I am on [REDACTED], so please will you keep [REDACTED] in the loop of any emails during that time.

I will work on evidence for the forum today – to whom should that be sent please [REDACTED]?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

Bristol Local Area SEND improvement



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 September 2021 16:40

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Gail Rogers <Gail.Rogers@bristol.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: Bristol Forum

Hi [REDACTED]

Just a quick follow up regarding our conversation yesterday.

I have had the opportunity to discuss the matter you raised with [REDACTED] who [REDACTED] forum and also have sought further advice [REDACTED] wanted to give a quick update following our conversation yesterday. I am also copying in [REDACTED] who I have spoken to this afternoon and so thought it would be beneficial to update everyone.

- Firstly, just to say that the SG member in question is not employed by the forum but is working on a contractual basis which can be ended by either party by giving two weeks notice.
- At face value it would appear that both the terms of the Contract and the forums Code of Conduct have been breached so theoretically it should be possible to end this arrangement quickly
- As agreed I have sought the advice (on behalf of the forum) [REDACTED] on this and asked about support for the forum moving this forward.
- One other point that [REDACTED] and I discussed was that the actions of this SG member do also to put both the DfE & L/A funding at risk going forward as lobbying is not permissible within the conditions of either of these funds.
- [REDACTED] and I are meeting with [REDACTED] tomorrow to tell him what has happened and also to help him (and the remaining SG members) deal with the issues and plan the next steps.

Just three other points to raise

Evidence, at the moment the forum has no evidence of proof of the lobbying activities and without this, they could be criticised for not thoroughly investigating the matter. Therefore, please could I ask you to share any of evidence or copies of the social media posts that are in the public domain? I understand that some of the evidence may be subject to GDPR but I have been advised that anything that is posted publically is ok to share..

Also, during our discussion you mentioned that another parent was also sharing confidential information on campaign and lobbying social media platforms and I wanted to say that this also constitutes a breach of the forum code of conduct so in order to address this please again could you send through any evidence that would help the forum address this matter.

I thought it was important to say that [REDACTED] and the other SG members had no knowledge of the social media posts. The SG parents have only recently had training on the work and remit of forums which did cover conflicts of interest, the rules about lobbying and transparency so I know they will be very unhappy when they hear this news especially

as they have been working so hard to build the forum and develop positive partnership working with L/A colleagues. As you all know, in the past the forum has also been the subject of hostile social media posts by other parent groups which is something I am mindful could happen again in the future.

I think that's it for now, thanks to all of you (and other L/A colleagues) for raising this and bringing it to my attention. I must say how profoundly depressing I find this whole situation to be, but I hope we can work together to resolve it as quickly and painlessly as we can.

Lets all keep in touch

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]