

The Labour Party

Head Office

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Mr Jon De Rennes,
18 Blakeden Drive,
Claygate,
ESHER,
KT10 0JR

23 January 2019

REF: L1618355
Case No: CN-0970

Dear Mr De Rennes,

Closure of Investigation and NEC Formal Warning

As you are aware, allegations that you may have been involved in a breach of Labour Party rules were brought to the attention of national officers of the Labour Party. It was alleged that you made comments on social media that may be in breach of rule 2.1.8.

The Labour Party should be the home of lively debate, of new ideas and of campaigns to change society. For a fair debate to take place, people must be able to air their views in an atmosphere of respect. Misogyny of any kind – whether direct attacks or pejorative language which may cause offence – is not acceptable and will not be tolerated in our Party. Language that may be perceived as provocative, insensitive or offensive falls short of the standards expected of us as Party members and has no place in our Party.

I would like to draw your attention specifically to Chapter 2 of the Labour Party Rule Book which states:

“No member of the Party shall engage in conduct which in the opinion of the NEC is prejudicial, or in any way in the opinion of the NEC is grossly detrimental to the Party”.

I have therefore considered it necessary to issue you with a formal NEC warning in under rule 6.1.C:

“Where in the opinion of the NEC there are circumstances which might warrant the use of its powers under sub-clauses (a) and (b), the NEC may individual warnings to any individual member of the Party drawing attention to the conduct which in the opinion of the NEC is either incompatible with continued membership of the party or may be in, or may lead to, a breach of the constitution, rules or standing orders of the party...”

The likely consequence of future behaviour of a similar nature to the allegation above could result in further disciplinary action, including the possibility of administrative suspension.

The Party would like to make clear that there is support available to you while this matter is being investigated. There are a number of organisations available who can offer support for your wellbeing:

You can contact your **GP** who can help you access support for your mental health and wellbeing.

The Samaritans are available 24/7 – They offer a safe place for anyone to talk any time they like, in their own way – about whatever’s getting to them. Telephone **116 123**.

Citizens Advice - Provide free, confidential and impartial advice. Their goal is to help everyone find a way forward, whatever problem they face. People go to the Citizens Advice Bureau with all sorts of issues. They may have money, benefit, housing or employment problems. They may be facing a crisis, or just considering their options. <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

If you have questions about the investigation process please contact the Investigating Officer, whose details will be included in this letter. If you have any questions regarding support available from the party please call the **Safeguarding Unit** on **0207 783 1134** Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4.30pm.

This letter herein will remain on your file and we reserve the right to consider this matter in future, should it be necessary. We hope that this matter is now behind you and we welcome you back to full membership of the Party.

If you have any questions about our procedures I would be happy to speak to you about them.

Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Nareser Osei,
Head of Disputes and Secretary of the NEC Disputes Panel
c.c. South East Labour Party
Esher and Walton CLP

The Labour Party's investigation process operates confidentially. That is vital to ensure fairness to you and the complainant, and to protect the rights of all concerned under the Data Protection Act 2018. I must therefore ask you to ensure that you keep all information and correspondence relating to this investigation private, and that do not share it with third parties or the media (including social media). That includes any information you receive from the Party identifying the name of the person who has made a complaint about you, any witnesses, the allegations against you, and the names of Party staff dealing with the matter. If you fail to do so, the Party reserves the right to take action to protect confidentiality, and you may be liable to disciplinary action for breach of the Party's rules. The Party will not share information about the case publicly unless, as a result of a breach of confidentiality, it becomes necessary to correct inaccurate reports. In that case we will only release the minimum information necessary to make the correction. **The Party may also disclose information in order to comply with its safeguarding obligations.**