

The Labour Party

Head Office

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0345 092 2299 | labour.org.uk/contact

Mr Peter Gregson
27 Riversdale Grove
EDINBURGH
EH12 5QS

13 March 2019

REF: L1156630
Case No: CN-0857

Dear Mr Gregson,

Notice of administrative suspension from holding office or representing the Labour Party

Further to the Notice of Investigation that was issued to you on 1 October 2018, additional evidence has been brought to the attention of national officers of the Party, which may be a breach of rule 2.I.8. This evidence relates to comments that you have allegedly made online in a Change.org petition as well as comments allegedly made at a GMB disciplinary hearing.

It is important that these allegations are investigated and the NEC will be asked to authorise a full report to be drawn up with recommendations for disciplinary action if appropriate.

I write to give you formal notice that it has been determined that the powers given to the NEC under Chapter 6 Clause I.1.A of the Party's rules should be invoked to suspend you from office or representation of the Party*, pending the outcome of an internal Party investigation.

The administrative suspension means that you cannot attend any Party meetings including Annual Conference and you cannot be considered for selection as a candidate to represent the Labour Party at an election at any level**.

In view of the urgency to protect the Party's reputation in the present situation the General Secretary has determined to use powers delegated to her under Chapter 1 Clause VIII.5 of the rules to impose this suspension forthwith, subject to the approval of the next meeting of the NEC.

The General Secretary has appointed the Governance and Legal Unit to arrange conduct of the Party's own investigation. You will be contacted in due course with details as to how the investigation will proceed. Please quote case number CN-0857 on all correspondence.

postmaster@roseburn32.plus.com is the email address that we will be corresponding with during the course of this investigation. If this email is incorrect please call 0345 092 2299 to update it.

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 you 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.**

The Labour Party would like to make clear that there is support available to you should you wish to use it. 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 Disputes@Labour.org.uk. If you have any questions regarding support available from the party please call the Safeguarding Unit on 0207 783 1134 Mon – Fri 9:30 – 4:30.

It is hoped you will offer your full co-operation to the Party in resolving this matter.

Yours sincerely

The Governance and Legal Unit

c.c. Scottish Labour Party
Edinburgh Central CLP

*In relation to any alleged breach of the constitution, rules or standing orders of the party by an individual member or members of the party, the NEC may, pending the final outcome of any investigation and charges (if any), suspend that individual or individuals from office or representation of the party notwithstanding the fact that the individual concerned has been or may be eligible to be selected as a candidate in any election or by-election. (Disciplinary Rules, Chapter 6 Clause I.1.A)

**A 'suspension' of a member whether by the NEC in pursuance of 1 above or by the NCC in imposing a disciplinary penalty, unless otherwise defined by that decision, shall require the membership rights of the individual member concerned to be confined to participation in their own branch meetings, unless the reason for the suspension in part or in full is their conduct in party meetings or there are concerns that their presence at branch meetings may be detrimental to the Party, and activities as an ordinary member only and in ballots of all individual members where applicable. A suspended member shall not be eligible to seek any office in the party, nor shall s/he be eligible for nomination to any panel of prospective candidates nor to represent the party in any position at any level. The member concerned will not be eligible to attend any CLP meeting other than to fulfil the requirement to participate in ballots. (Disciplinary rules, Clause 6.I.3)