

**From:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@trethowans.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@trethowans.com)>

**Sent:** 19 May 2020 12:25

**To:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@Weightmans.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@Weightmans.com)>

**Subject:** Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRET-WORKSITE.FID756390]

**This message originated from outside our organisation and was sent to [REDACTED]. The sender name was [REDACTED] and the sender's email address was [REDACTED]@trethowans.com**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email yesterday.

Whilst we appreciate that it is for you to conduct your investigation as you see fit, equally my client has a right to privacy in relation to his personal, private life and as I said in my original email to you one of the main reasons why he took legal advice was because of his concerns that your investigation was straying into those areas which, in his view, are not relevant to the central issues of your investigation.

In response to your summarization of our client's responses:-

- 1 My client never said that one of the complainants gave him this information. A member of the team placed the orders with the ramp suppliers and [REDACTED] arranged the collection of the ramps. She can certainly confirm that there was never any suggestion of the ramps being free. The value of the ramps was around £8,000 but the suppliers agreed to supply them for £2,000. There were four ramps and three were supplied. Half the order by value was supplied. When no money was forthcoming the final ramp, the largest, a car ramp, was withheld.
- 2 Correct, the relevance of this question remains beyond us. How would our client know whether he was videoed driving the lorry. To put this matter to bed he does have the necessary licence and he has driven a number of lorries including the Solent Stars one in February 2020.
- 3 You do not provide in your email the assurance that our client requested in our last email in relation to the keeping of this letter confidential so that it will not be reproduced in any shape or form in your report into the investigation.
- 4 We also understand that [REDACTED] is prepared to release the photographs of her injuries from [REDACTED] unprovoked assault plus the text messages that she received from [REDACTED], and to be interviewed by you if you feel the need to do so, but only on the basis that the sensitive documents will not be published by you in any shape or form in your report [REDACTED]

We look forward to receiving the requested assurances.

Regards.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
For and on behalf of Trethowans LLP

T:

M:

F:

Trethowans LLP, The Pavilion, Botleigh Grange Business Park, Hedge End, Southampton SO30 2AF, Switchboard: +44 (0) 23 8032 1000

We will always treat your privacy with the utmost respect. To view our privacy notice please click [here](#).

**Our response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) - looking out for our people and clients**, [click here to read more](#).

**TRETHOWANS**

Law. As it should be.

**From:** [REDACTED]@trethowans.com>  
**Sent:** 19 May 2020 15:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]@Weightmans.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRETH-WORKSITE.FID756390]

**This message originated from outside our organisation and was sent to [REDACTED]. The sender name was [REDACTED] and the sender's email address was [REDACTED]**

[REDACTED] we are a bit confused by your e mail -do you not now want the additional information we have said we will provide once we get your assurance re its publication?

**From:** [REDACTED]@Weightmans.com]  
**Sent:** 19 May 2020 14:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRETH-WORKSITE.FID756390]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

As a result of your answers I will need to make some further inquiries which I will hope to conclude as quickly as possible.

I will send you a copy of my draft report as soon as it is produced.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Partner  
Weightmans LLP



Tel: [REDACTED]  
DDI: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@Weightmans.com

<https://www.weightmans.com>

128 specialism rankings and 276 individual rankings in Chambers and Legal 500



Please send all communications electronically. In light of the government's recent advice, we have limited capacity to handle incoming or outgoing post.

We will accept service of proceedings electronically if proceedings are sent to <mailto:serviceofproceedings@weightmans.com>



**From:** [REDACTED]@Weightmans.com]

**Sent:** 19 May 2020 15:22

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRETH-WORKSITE.FID756390]

Dear [REDACTED]

I would think that you and your client would be aware that I cannot give that assurance. As I explained to your client the investigation process is confidential but once it is completed it will be a matter for the Council to decide what steps to take, if any. This could include a hearing before the standards committee and it would be for that committee to decide what information to publish in accordance with the provisions of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The presumption would be that information would be published. Whilst there may be some grounds for not publishing some or even all of the information that would need to be judged applying the relevant law at the time and would not be my decision to make. So I cannot give the assurance requested and have never done so in any investigation I have carried out even though it is not uncommon for investigations to deal with sensitive issues.

Of course it is possible that the matter would not proceed to a hearing and if it did the Council would no doubt consider any representations that any materials should be kept confidential. However, it would have to consider any such representations at the relevant time and could not give an assurance of confidentiality in advance.

I hope this clarifies the position. If you are willing to provide the information on the basis it will be kept confidential but may be published by the Council at some later point with such a decision would be based on the relevant legal provisions then please let me know. If not I will proceed on the basis that you are not supplying it.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Partner

Weightmans LLP



Tel: [REDACTED]

DDI [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@Weightmans.com

<https://www.weightmans.com>

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**From:** [REDACTED]@Weightmans.com]  
**Sent:** 26 May 2020 10:10  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRETH-WORKSITE.FID756390]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for sending these documents.

I assume as you have not included any correspondence from the police to Cllr Woodward he has not received any? I would be grateful if you could confirm.

Regards.

[REDACTED]

Partner  
Weightmans LLP



Tel: [REDACTED]  
DDI: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@Weightmans.com  
<https://www.weightmans.com>

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**From:** [REDACTED]@trethowans.com>  
**Sent:** 21 May 2020 09:25  
**To:** [REDACTED]@Weightmans.com>  
**Subject:** Complaint against Hampshire County Council [TRETH-WORKSITE.FID756390]

**This message originated from outside our organisation and was sent to [REDACTED] The sender name was [REDACTED] and the sender's email address was [REDACTED]@trethowans.com**

[REDACTED]

In the light of what you said in your final paragraph of your email of 19 May 2020, my client is prepared to release to you the various further documents. Please find them attached.

Regards.

[REDACTED]

For and on behalf of Trethowans LLP