

FS-CASE-689504213: **No breach identified** – Recommendation of No Further Action.

Executive Summary

This report addresses an allegation made against Councilor (Cllr) Jane Taylor concerning her conduct during a full council meeting held on 14 January 2025. The complaint, submitted by Cllr Sanders on 21 February 2025, accuses Cllr Taylor of bringing the council into disrepute by allegedly spreading misinformation and making deceitful statements for social media purposes, particularly in response to the Chair's mention of the "Debate Not Hate" policy.

The investigation included a review of the meeting's video recording, interviews with both Cllr Taylor and the complainant, and an examination of the council's Constitution and Code of Conduct. It was found that:

- There is no evidence that the "Debate Not Hate" policy was formally on the agenda or adopted at the meeting.
- Cllr Taylor's reaction—accusing the Chair of implying she had engaged in hate speech—was based on a genuine, albeit mistaken, belief.
- The Chair did not follow the procedural mechanisms available under the Constitution to manage the situation.
- There is no evidence of premeditation or intent by Cllr Taylor to manipulate the meeting for social media content.
- While Cllr Taylor's conduct may have been disruptive, it did not meet the threshold for bringing the council into disrepute under the Code of Conduct.

Conclusion:

The report concludes that the allegation is unsubstantiated and the complaint is not upheld. No sanctions are recommended.