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**From:** Coleman, Cllr Brian  
**Sent:** 22 January 2014 13:27  
**To:** Salter, Maryellen  
**Cc:** Moore, Cllr Alison; Cornelius, Cllr Richard  
**Subject:** Complaint under the Code of Conduct

This is a complaint under the Members Code of Conduct specifically para 1 about openness and honesty

In Answer to Question 36 tabled by Cllr Alison Moore for answer at last night's Council meeting, Cllr Dean Cohen declined to answer how he had voted on the issue of the future of the procurement project citing part 2 commercial confidentiality reasons of the nature of the report.

Cllr Cohen retained that position when Cllr Moore asked a supplementary

Despite attempts to discuss the matter of how a Council appointee to an Outside Body had voted on a major issue of public policy Cllr Cohen still declined the opportunity to tell us when replying to the debate on the motion in my name on NLWA matters

I now understand from reading the NLWA public papers on their website covering the Sept 26th 2013 meeting of the Authority that in fact Cllr Cohen was absent entirely from the meeting. Indeed there is a report to members requesting that the 6 month rule be waived in the case of Cllr Cohen till 14th February 2014. It is noted in the report that Cllr Cohen had failed to attend any meetings of NLWA in the municipal year 2013/14

I believe that Councillor Cohen misled the full Council by failing to answer Cllr Moore's question honestly with a simple "I did not vote, I was not present", despite having 3 opportunities to do so, the question, the supplementary and the motion on NLWA in breach of the Code of Conduct and Nolan principles of openness and Honesty

Cllr Cohen deliberately maintained a falsehood that the matter of how he voted at the meeting was part 2 in an attempt to hide from the Council that he had not attended this vital meeting (or indeed the previous one) knowing the future of the 3 billion pound procurement contract was to be discussed

As you have access to the transcript of last night's Council I am sure you can verify my statements

I assume the matter will be dealt with  
In the appropriate way

Kind regards