Agenda Item 3



COUNCILLOR STEPHEN ALAMBRITIS LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

(Labour, Ravensbury Ward)

Cllr Peter McCabe

Cllr Agatha Akyigyina

Cllr Mike Brunt

Cllr Michael Bull

Cllr Adam Bush

Cllr John Dehaney

Cllr Janice Howard

Cllr Mary-Jane Jeanes

Cllr Ian Munn

Cllr Greg Udeh

Cllr Martin Whelton

Cllr Oonagh Moulton

London Borough of Merton Merton Civic Centre London Road Morden SM4 5DX

Tel: Email:

020 8545 3424 (Civic Centre) stephen.alambritis@merton.gov.uk

Date:

13 December 2016

To the Members of the Standards and General Purposes Committee

I understand you are meeting on 13 December to consider complaints in relation to a Labour Party letter and survey seeking residents' views on council tax, which was distributed in Mitcham & Morden constituency. Although the letter was from the Labour Party, residents were encouraged to send their thoughts back to the council using the council's reply paid address.

I would wish the panel to be aware that the Labour Party, and myself personally, were not cognisant of the rules around use of the council's reply paid address. Nonetheless when this was made clear to me I apologised to the Chief Executive for the oversight and agreed to pay the cost of any replies so that there was no use of council resources.

Mitcham and Morden Labour Party have been invoiced by the council and have paid in full the relevant amount so that there has been no cost to the council. There may be the odd late reply and if so Mitcham and Morden Labour party will pay for these where received.

Best wishes,

Councillor Stephen Alambritis Leader of Merton Council

