

Mike Thornton MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Ian Trenholm  
Chief Executive  
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead  
Town Hall  
St Ives Road  
Maidenhead, SL6 1RF

6 February 2015

Ref: cw/Aff1001/2

Dear Mr Trenholm,

This is a constituency enquiry. I have been contacted by my constituent Mr Affleck of 2 Suffolk Green, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 3ES raising concerns with a historic child abuse matter in your borough.

Mr Affleck was placed into Green Field House, Ray Park Road, Maidenhead aged 10 in 1968. During his time at this home Mr Affleck suffered multiple counts of child abuse, the home was at the centre of a paedophile ring. I am sure you are aware of the terrible details of the allegations made in this children's home.

My constituent is concerned with alleged payments made by Denham Gilbert-Smith, who has been convicted of multiple child abuse charges, to Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council (RBWMC). Mr Affleck has outlined his belief that the payment amounts to some £1.5 million in 2007 made in order to keep details of Mr Gilbert-Smith's involvement in abuse at Green Field House secret.

Mr Affleck believes this secret payment has very much perverted the course of justice by hindering future investigations. My constituent is concerned that the alleged payment was made in 2007 following RBWMC moving to sue Mr Gilbert-Smith to recover losses incurred settling out of court with a number of his victims. That the council then compensated more of the victims in 2008, including my constituent, out of court represents in Mr Affleck's opinion a cover up to keep the actions of the abusers secret.

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