

ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by Newsline - 22 Mar 2014 10:51

East Renfrewshire Council has been accused of a “totalitarian motivated ploy” to control East Renfrewshire's Community Councils after setting out plans for disciplining at least three of the East Ren CC's for not signing up to the ERC dictated constitution.

The move has prompted fresh claims that ERC is attempting to operate like a North Korea.

The first thing totalitarian states do to consolidate absolute power is seize control of the newspapers.

Many feel that has already happened – by stealth, and now under a so called council democracy they are attempting to silence Community Councillors who are intent on acting on behalf of their residents and holding the council to account, and will not cosy up to the council.

There is a paper to be discussed next Wednesday 26th March 2014 at the full council in Eastwood Park.

In summary ERC are requesting the authority to remove administration funding, remove council support and assistance, and remove any recognition of them by the council, remove the right to be statutory consultees and remove the use of council facilities.(namely the use of council halls for meetings)

The three CC's affected so far are Clarkston, Thornliebank and Newton Mearns.

However the elected members are also being asked to approve these measures to be undertaken should any other CC's fail in the future to comply with ERC's directives. [Link to the Council Paper](#)

A decision will be made on Wednesday

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by Gloria - 04 May 2014 10:51

Just how can a member of staff make a decision to stop talking. Who is running ERC, the folk that we elected or the over paid staff who obviously have illusions of grandeur and are getting away with it as no one is challenging them, except a few community councils.

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by Newsline - 04 May 2014 12:12

WHO is Caroline Innes

It would appear that she is a town planning graduate who joined COSLA as a Policy Manager in October 1985 and worked there until February 1992 when she moved to work with East Kilbride District Council as a Corporate Policy manager until 1996.

Ms Innes thereafter joined East Renfrewshire Council in 1996 as corporate policy manager and progressed to assistant chief executive in 1999.

Ms Innes is currently paid a salary that is believed to be £116,895 per annum.

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by lasercow - 04 May 2014 13:48

I really think the Government needs to step in here. ERC have completely lost the plot with the Community Councils.

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by Sax - 05 May 2014 07:18

Our Ms McMillan has told her staff to not talk to the joint chairs of East Ren Community Councils, Ms Innes has told NMCC and CCC that she will not longer talk to them.

Just what do our elected members have to say about that, will Vinny who is normally vocal on his facebook make comment or just let this go over his head.

Why are we employing and paying a fortune to a chief and deputy executive that are obviously DEMOCRATICALLY CHALLENGED

ERC Corporate statement – Your Council Your Future

Our vision is Your Council - striving to be the best we can be to deliver a better future for all.

Older people in East Renfrewshire are valued; their voices are heard and they are supported to enjoy full and positive lives for longer. (Oh but not if you want to talk to community councils to talk to us, cause we don't talk to them)

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by Gerry - 05 May 2014 07:40

Who are the mugs here. They can sit in bunker Eastwood plotting against the public and refusing to talk to certain groups and individuals, like Chairs of CC's and entire CC's and Newline and we are paying them just over a quarter of a million pounds each and every year for the privilege, £251,991 to be exact. 😏

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Re: ERC accused of trying to punish Community Councils

Posted by alice - 05 May 2014 10:32

Has the Head of Democratic Services - Mr Sneddon not been shown to be democratically challenged too?

How else would you describe his demands that the Thornliebank Chair can no longer remain in office as ERC made a mistake with boundaries?

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