Lawrie Quinn MP

Our ref: local Gov Omb. Person dealing with this matter: Clare Billing

16 September 2004

Patricia Thomas Local Government Ombudsman The Commission for Local Administration in England Beverley House 17 Shipton Road York YO30 5FZ House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Tel 020 7219 5937 Fax 020 7219 2477 www.lawrie-quinn.org.uk

Dear Mrs Thomas

Report on an Investigation into a complaint against Scarborough Borough Council Reference number 02/C/13683

Following publication of the commission's report on the 6th September, I was able to have a very useful conversation with your colleague Mr Hobbs whilst you took your annual leave.

During the course of that conversation I indicated to Mr Hobbs that I would be formally requesting that the commission publish the details of the locations of parking bays within central Scarborough, which you have found not to be compliant with the regulations and consequently led to your decision of maladministration causing injustice.

My reason for making this request on behalf of constituents in Scarborough and Whitby is based on an earlier meeting I was able to have with the political leadership and the Chief Executive of Scarborough Borough Council. I urged the Council to publish a formal list of those parking bays which were deemed to be non compliant by the commission and it is regrettable that they declined this request.

I hope you will appreciate the added sense of injustice which is abroad in the community I represent, since local people are now unclear whether the fixed penalty notice issued to them, and for the most part paid without recourse to the courts, was legitimate. It is clear that the locations of the rogue parking bays is fundamental to establishing whether 'fines' collected by Scarborough Borough Council were done so fairly.

If it would be helpful to you to discuss this with me by telephone I would be pleased if you could contact Clare Billing on 020 7219 5937 so we can schedule a mutually convenient time.

Yours sincerely

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Lawrie Quinn MP Scarborough & Whitby

Cc John Trebble, Eileen Bosomworth, John Warburton, Peter Popple