

[REDACTED]

From: FOI
Sent: 08 June 2018 09:12
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Powers to stop elected members in Local Government - Response

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated **21 May 2018**.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

- 1. What powers exist for a council to block, bar or limiting the function of an elected Member**
- 2. What offence may be committed should a council have no powers or misuse powers to block, bar or limiting the function of an elected Member.**
- 3. What body is responsible for taking action in such cases or interference with the democratic electoral process.**

Our response is as follows:

The Commission does not hold the information you have requested. Your request in fact is asking for advice or guidance. The Commission does not have any written guidance covering the points you have raised.

The Electoral Commission's remit includes UK electoral law only. We work to support well-run elections and referendums in the UK, offering support and guidance to those involved in their conduct. I have included below a link to a section on our website which explains our role in elections should you wish to read further about what we do.

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/our-work/roles-and-responsibilities/our-role-in-elections-and-referendums>

As your questions appear to relate to the conduct of councils once their members have been elected, you may wish to consult other bodies which may have relevant expertise in these areas, for example [Department of Local Government and Communities](#).'

In addition, I attach a link to the ICO guidance for the public about requesting official information. <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I hope that this information is useful.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Access to Information Officer (FOI & DPA)
The Electoral Commission

3 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y 8YZ
020 7271 [REDACTED]
electoralcommission.org.uk
yourvotematters.co.uk

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