

From: [Joanne](#)

Sent: 09 June 2020 17:26

To: Ajaz Ahmed: Conservative Regional Chairman for the South East

Cc: Alfred Friday: Vice President Spelthorne Conservative Association

Subject: Resignation from the Conservative Party

Dear Mr Ahmed,

It is with regret that I have decided to resign from Spelthorne Conservative Group and the Conservative Party. Please find my letter attached.

Regards

Joanne Sexton

Cllr for Ashford North Stanwell South

It is with a heavy heart that I have to resign from the Conservative Party due to the constant bullying within the Party. I am a true Conservative but unfortunately the Conservative Councillors Association and Conservative Campaign HQ have turned a blind eye to the continuous bullying that I and others have suffered and they are not interested in the behaviour of a few who make life in the council very difficult. I am not sure how the Chairman of the Association can get away with his behaviour, I guess he must be considered indispensable, like Dominic Cummings is to Boris. It seems there is one set of rules for the people at the top of the party and another for everyone else.

I had already left the Conservative councillors group in 2016 because I and another Councillor were bullied by the same Chairman of the Association and his small team to the point where they made life very difficult for us and it became impossible for us to stay. I never wanted to leave but some male colleagues who are still in the group today act like egotistical misogynists and are only interested in their own needs, and not the needs of the residents.

My residents know that they come first and I will always do everything I can to assist them. Sadly there are very few of us who think like that. I will continue to serve the residents who elected me and to put their interests first.

I was asked to return soon after the Association Chairman resigned in 2018. Kwasi Kwarteng our MP always wanted me to return as did the Leader of the Council. I was contacted by the new Association Chairman who asked me to attend an interview for selection. I was delighted that they and the group wanted me to return. All but a tiny minority of 5 individuals wanted me to return.

I returned and my lovely residents elected me to represent them in May 2019. Part of the Conservative group have decided that it is time for a change in leadership of the council, however they only have one person who wishes to stand. He is not a credible candidate he has not shown the commitment to residents wellbeing that I would expect from a Leader".

I don't have any problem with change but it is imperative that the individual chosen has the skill set to be able to carry out the role and the significant time and capabilities to continue the current Leadership required to keep our services running, especially in a time of national crisis.

Our residents deserve a first-class service and with all the infighting it is clear that they will not receive this and I have no confidence that the new group leader will deliver this.

I now await the same onslaught of vindictive posters being put up across our borough as the Association Chairman organised previously. I will continue to serve my residents as an independent councillor and will put their interests before those of the discredited Conservative party.