

Ombudsman concerned about motivation behind complaints

I refer to the false allegation that I stated in February to Cr Jason Falinski after he verbally attacked Cr Virginia Laugesen that his daughter would be better off without him. This vexatious and trivial allegation has now resulted in me facing censure by rival Councillors.

I am glad that my concerns about the motivation behind some Code of Conduct complaints at Warringah Council are shared by the NSW Deputy State Ombudsman, who last week wrote to me:

"I do generally hold concerns about the number of code of conduct complaints made by councillors and others at Warringah Council and the motivations behind them. As a consequence of this office's continuing concerns we have decided to make written enquiries, of our own motion, regarding the Code of Conduct review process at council".

The amount of ratepayers money wasted in unfairly pursuing me for political purposes is excessive. There also needs to be a proper independent investigation into this waste and who is behind it.

All I have ever done during my time on Council is represent residents and fought against over-development, insisted on transparency and accountability of council's management, opposed the second car parking sticker being taken from residents and sporting levies increased, stopped the privatisation of child care and surf clubhouses, and spoken out against the reduction in funding for community services. Sure, I have blocked proposals against the community's interest but to now attempt to censure me for a vexatious and trivial allegation which I strongly deny is extreme and malicious.

Vincent De Luca OAM
Warringah Councillor