

## **INVESTIGATION REPORT**

Investigator Name	Roger Weston	Report Date	11/02/2021
Investigation Start	11/02/2021	Investigation End	12/02/2021
Date		Date	
Candidate subject to	Zahra Chouthy, Usama		
investigation	Anwar, Ezmeer Ali		

# **Evidence Review**List any potential evidence gathered during evidence review. Note the type of evidence and describe the surrounding circumstances of the occurrence.

Time	Type of Evidence	Description
11/02/2021 00:22	Email	Original Complaint
11/02/2021 13:38	Email	Second Complaint
11/02/2021 13:38	Screenshots	Appendix 1- Screenshots received as part of Second Complaint
11/02/2021 15:40	Screenshots	Appendix 2- Additional Screenshots collated by DRO
12/02/2021 01:30	Video	2 screen recordings of University-owned groups

#### **Summary & Recommendations**

Please summarize your thoughts on this investigation and note your suggestions for follow-up or resolution of this case.

A complaint was received regarding campaigning via university-owned social media pages.

The following timeline is relevant to the complaint:

Date and Time	Action by	Action
08/02/2021	DRO	DRO informed candidates present at the candidate briefing
18:00		that it would be expected that candidates would check the
		Rulings Page daily during the process to ensure that they
		were up-to-date with any new rulings and interpretations.
09/02/2021 18:00	DRO	DRO informed candidates present at the candidate briefing that it would be expected that candidates would check the <a href="Rulings Page">Rulings Page</a> daily during the process to ensure that they were up-to-date with any new rulings and interpretations.
10/02/2021 13:02	DRO	DRO announced on Rulings Page that posting on University-owned social media platforms would not be permitted.  - DRO emailed all candidates to inform them that the Rulings Page was live and contained announcements regarding the election.
10/02/2021 18:28	DRO	Evidence was sent through regarding the complaint made in the Second Complaint. That evidence has been collated in Appendix 1.

10/02/2021	ZC, UA, EA	Latest point at which posts would have been put onto
21:38		Facebook group given the "16h" timestamp on the
		screenshots received
11/02/2021	Complainant	Screenshots sent to DRO by complainant
13:38		
11/02/2021	ZC, UA, EA	Posts removed
17:15		

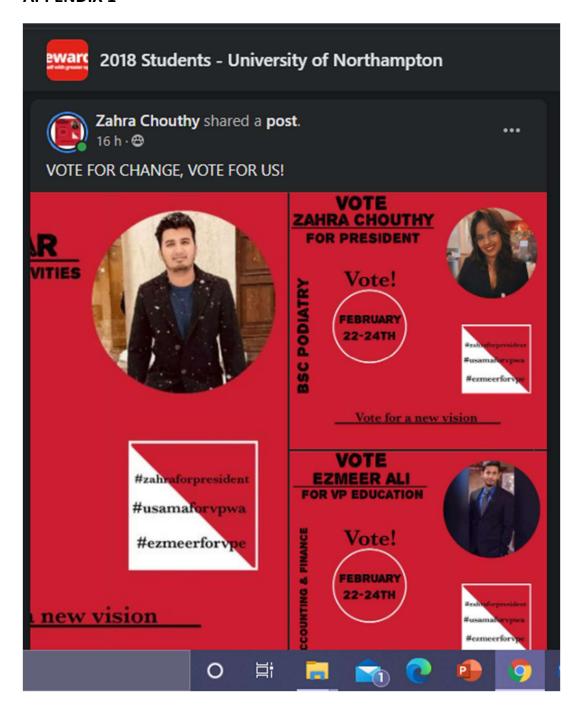
Taking the timeline into consideration and the requests that were made by the DRO, it is a reasonable assumption to make that the candidates will not have seen the post by the DRO at this point, and on the balance of probabilities I can be assumed that they were unaware of the new ruling. The posts were taken down within 24 hours of the email sent by the DRO.

#### **Decision**

It has been decided that no immediate action should be taken against the candidates at this point, as the timescales regarding this issue show no unreasonable action was taken by the candidates, and the effect of those actions will be negligible by the time students can vote between 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> February.

The candidate involved will be reminded that they should regularly check emails from the DRO and the Rulings page on the SU website to ensure they are up-to-date and compliant with any rule alterations.

#### **APPENDIX 1**





### 2018 Students - University of Northampton

Zahra Chouthy is with Usama Anwar and Ezmeer Ali.

My team and I are determined to work towards a new vision for the university.

The University of Northampton is your home and your life, and we will do our best to make your university experience as great as ours has been.

Academically, we will work to reduce the university fees or provide you with more facilities to attend your classes online.

What is university without fun! We will try to plan more events as the government guidelines ease more. Life is all about the people you meet and the memories you create with them. We'll do our best for you to live your dream university life.

Where there is a will, there is a way. To get on with the University work, we all need motivation. During the exam period we will support all the students to work as hard as they can to achieve their goals. We will try to keep the library open 24/7 again so that you can work more efficiently.

You will be listened to and actions will be taken for your welfare. Vote for a new vision

Vote for Zahra Chouthy as president

Vote for Usama Anwar as vice president welfare and activities Vote for Ezmeer Ali as vice president education

#zahraforpresident

#usamaforvp

#ezmeerforvp





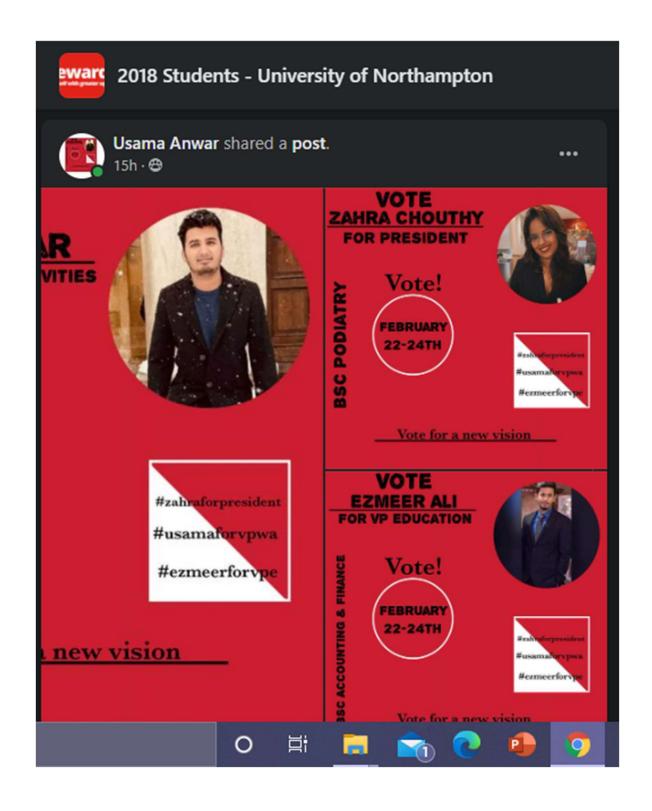














#### **APPENDIX 2**

