

INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigator Name	Roger Weston	Report Date	23/02/2021
Investigation Start Date	23/02/2021	Investigation End Date	23/02/2021
Candidate subject to investigation	Zahra Chouthy, Usama 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
22/02/2021 16:02	Email	Original Complaint
22/02/2021 16:02	Screen Recording	Recording showing post on Instagram
22/02/2021 17:25	Email	Second Complaint
22/02/2021 16:02	Screen Recording	Recording showing post on Instagram
22/02/2021 18:35	Email	Third Complaint
23/02/2021 07:51	Email	Email sent by DRO to Returning Officer summarising complaints and asking for guidance
23/02/2021 10:25	Email	Advice received from Returning Officer on the issue

Summary & Recommendations

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

The original complaints are concerning about a video posted to Zahra, Usama, and Ezmeer's social media pages. The complaints also included a screen recording of the video.

The complainants felt that the video:

"violates the basic rule of voting confidentiality and is a serious offense[sic]"

"I believe this violates the election regulations and SU bye-law as it contains confidential information of an account"

"I have noticed that a new vision slate has posted the voting procedure as screen recording. In which they have explicitly shown partial voting behaviour"

The DRO reviewed the evidence supplied and consulted the Returning Officer for their advice. The DRO felt that the post shows voters how simple the voting process is once they log in to our voting portal, there is no issue with the bias it shows as that is implied anyway due to the fact that they are running in the election. The only issue raised is that the post appears to promote voting as more of a First Past The Post process, rather than empowering the voter to take advantage of AV.

The RO agreed with the DRO and the following decisions have been made:

- There is no breach of elections regulations with regards to the post, and therefore the complaints made have all been rejected.
- The RO and DRO request that the original post is removed and any alternative post contains information about Alternative Transferrable Voting, ensuring that voters viewing

the post understand that they can list candidates by order of preference, rather than just voting "1" for their favourite.