



# GRAHAM EVANS MP

Member of Parliament for Weaver Vale

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Our Ref: NJ / ZA9730  
27 April 2016

*Dear Owen,*

I refer to your recent comments to me and about me on Twitter, and our subsequent exchange. As indicated I am happy to meet with you / speak to you by telephone to address your concerns and so we can discuss this matter in more detail.

I'm sure you'll agree that social media is not an appropriate platform to discuss such sensitive issues particularly as there are a number of layers to consider.

I do note that your Twitter account makes reference to your being the District Commissioner for Mersey Weaver Scouts - can I assume from this that your posts and comments are made on behalf of Cheshire Scouts / The Scout Association and that you are voicing their policy and opinion?

Whether this is the case or not, I also note that you follow and / or are followed by a number of scout related groups locally, including the County Commissioner, and I am concerned that you feel it appropriate to use four letter comments about issues such as customer service.

Given that you are in a position of responsibility in respect of young people I would venture that you may wish to moderate the tone of your postings to the extent that they do not use offensive or inappropriate language.

By dint of that position as District Commissioner, you occupy an honourable status within the local community, which gives you the power to influence the future behaviour and conduct of impressionable youngsters and I'm sure you wouldn't wish to do so in an inappropriate fashion.

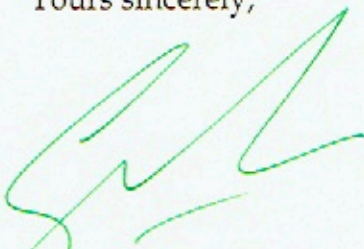
Social media has the power to engage directly with young people and by virtue of its very nature, through sharing or commenting, can reach far beyond the immediate locality and into the wider public domain. As a Scout Association Ambassador, and a Member of the national Council, I would be most





disappointed were your comments to be misconstrued and reflect on the good works done through scouting generally.

Yours sincerely,



**Graham Evans MP**  
Member of Parliament for Weaver Vale

cc. Graham Phillips, Cheshire County Commissioner