

**From:** Carmen Houlahan <[Carmen.Houlahan@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:Carmen.Houlahan@dcc.govt.nz)>

**Date:** 21 November 2023 at 6:38:06 PM NZDT

**To:** Sophie Barker <[Sophie.Barker@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:Sophie.Barker@dcc.govt.nz)>

**Subject:** Confidential

Dear Sophie,

I have wanted us to speak to each other either face to face or on the phone in the hope we can resolve this. I am very sorry I sent you the text [REDACTED]. It was not nice and not something I even agree with. As you know I have, on the odd occasion, [REDACTED] how well you are doing at Council. It is also none of my business and I should not have said anything. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. It was something I said in the heat of a significant political event. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I miss our chats and I am worried about what this whole process will do to our ongoing relationship as we still have to work together for the next two years. Also it is divisive in Council. I wish we had sat down and talked this out. Obviously, I regret sending these texts. I am human and I made some mistakes and said some things I regret, [REDACTED]. My hope is that you will think on this and consider withdrawing your complaint against me but if you want to continue that is your choice. I will abide by whatever decision you decide.

Warm regards,  
Carmen