



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

David Holdsworth
Chief Executive
Charity Commission
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ
England

Our Ref: JR06309

6 August 2025

Dear Mr Holdsworth,

I am writing on behalf of a constituent, Councillor Monica Davies, regarding a dispute over a Sole Trust that has been active in Datchet since 1967.

For your reference, the charity in question is the Datchet Recreational Centre Charitable Trust. The address is Datchet Hall 3 Allen Way Datchet, and the Charity Number is 252303.

As I understand it, in April this year, following a series of events which my constituent will have raised with you, the registered Trustees listed on the website were changed and the Charity Commission link withheld from my constituent, with no notification given to the previous Trustees. I understand this was an abrupt change with little consideration for the complexities of the case. There also seems to have been a lack of due attention given to the associated paperwork held by Commission, regarding the history of the charity which is the source of the dispute. My constituent also reports many challenges when dealing with the Charity Commission via email and phone, often having to chase up emails and never being able to speak to the same member of staff twice.

I believe that the Commission recommended legal action which my constituent is now pursuing. However, I feel that the Charity Commission, as regulator, could have acted in a way that would have prevented this recourse which will cost time, money and stress for those involved. From what my constituent has recounted it seems that the Commission fell short of its stated aims "To be the expert Charity Commission that is fair, balanced, and independent so that charity can thrive".

I would be grateful if you could provide the Commission's assessment of this particular case and set out what steps you will be taking to improve your organisations operational method for the future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Jack Rankin MP