

ISLE OF WIGHT CONSTITUENCY LABOUR PARTY

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3rd November 2014

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR ASKS FOR ANSWERS ON ANDREW TURNER EXPENSES

The Isle of Wight Labour Party is asking Andrew Turner to explain his expenses claims over a number of years, following a story in today's Daily Telegraph.

Ed Gouge, Labour Party Secretary said, "It seems extraordinary that a complaint involving substantial sums of money claimed by Mr Turner cannot be investigated because records have been destroyed.

I am sure people would also question that apparently Mr Turner claimed as his second home a substantial five bedroom property on the Island when he already had a one-bedroom flat in London. That may adhere to the letter of the rules at the time but is it in the spirit – particularly at a time when many people on the Island struggle to keep a single roof over their head?

The UK has had its confidence in its politicians shaken by previous expenses revelations and I think Mr Turner owes the Island a clear and full account of this matter, especially given that he is opposed to the recall of MPs.

I would also say that this whole issue has proved beyond all doubt that the local Tory party is at war. Evidently factions clearly have no confidence at all in Mr Turner and, I suspect, vice versa".

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