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Redbridge Matters urges the Redbridge Council and Labour leadership to investigate Jas Athwal's rental property issue under their code of conduct.

Redbridge Matters is following the revelations about Jas Athwal, our former Leader of the Council and now Member of Parliament for Ilford South, as you would have seen in the news there is serious concern regarding his rental properties which has been deeply disturbing. We are apparently being told that the properties were in poor condition, also he did not have the required licences for some of the properties under the Redbridge Council's own regulations that the Council introduced under his leadership.

He still sits as a Redbridge Councillor, in addition to his other roles, and we call on the Council to start a full investigation under its code of conduct and to act on the findings. If licences were not in place, he must face the appropriate penalty as would be expected in the case of any other member of public in Redbridge.

We call on Kier Starmer to withdraw the whip until the results of the investigation are known. Also to refer the matter to Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.

We are also concerned that Jas Athwal has put the blame on the managing agent of his properties, but the managing agent has not been named or been asked for comment, why is this being covered up?

We do believe if an MP or any public officer wilfully misconducts him or herself; to such a degree as to amount to an abuse of the public's trust in the office holder; it can amount to misconduct in public office.

The public trust in Jas Athwal is questionable at this stage. Therefore, public trust must be restored by clear action being taken on this news story that remains live in the press and media for nearly a week now. It is expected to continue as a news story because of the public interest in the matter.

Redbridge Matters (RM) is a Community Action Group
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