

Dear Secretary of State,

As elected representatives for the Isle of Wight we are very concerned with the recent comments made by Mr. David Hoare the Chairman of Ofsted.

There are many inaccuracies in Mr. Hoare's statement concerning such things as the Island's crime rate and the educational attainment level of the Island's children. He also seems overly concerned about the supply of Champagne on the Island while worrying about the size of the gene pool thinking we are all inbred.

It should be conceded that until recently education on the Island was in a dire state. However thanks to dedicated staff and leadership in the institutions and the support of Hampshire County Council's Children's Services Department given to the Isle of Wight Council's Children's Services Department the situation is now far removed from what Mr. Hoare alleges. Given his position this is something Mr. Hoare should have been aware of and it does rather question his judgment if he is not up to speed with the latest developments.

On a more specific note Mr. Hoare described the Isle of Wight as a "White Ghetto". This is the really concerning aspect. Had Mr. Hoare substituted the word Black, Asian or Muslim for White then very serious things would have already happened. However the fact he used White should not let him off the hook. It was a nasty racially based slur used against a community and should not be accepted by your Department.

I am aware that Mr. Hoare has already apologised for the many insults included in his tirade against the Isle of Wight but this should not be the end of the matter. This sort of overt bias cannot be allowed to call into question the work of Ofsted. Everyone subject to inspection and oversight should feel that they will get a fair hearing in the process. I am afraid that while Mr. Hoare remains in place large sections of the community will feel that they will not get just outcomes from the system.

For the good of the Ofsted we call on you to remove Mr. Hoare from post with immediate effect.

On behalf of the UKIP Group of the Isle of Wight Council.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Daryll Pitcher  
UKIP Group Leader  
Isle of Wight Council