**Gaurav Sharma – timeline of recent events**

Thursday 11th August

* Dr. Gaurav Singh MP (elected in landslide victory for Hamilton West, 2020) published a column on NZ Herald website alleging bullying within the Labour Party. The piece argued that MP-to-MP and party-to-MP bullying was "rampant in Parliament" and that Parliamentary Service - which provides administrative support to MPs and staff - "promoted and facilitated" this by "working behind the scenes" with party Whips, leaders, and the Prime Minister's Office.
* Among [his accusations](https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/472704/hamilton-west-mp-gaurav-sharma-accuses-parliamentary-service-of-stonewalling-bullying-claims) were that the Parliamentary Service stonewalled serious concerns about colleagues' behaviour and instead redirected them to the party's whip, whom - he claimed - would gaslight and victimise the complainant with the intention of threatening them about their long-term career prospects.
* He revealed later that day that he had taken his complaints to the Prime Minister's Office last year and "nothing has been done".

Friday 12th August

* Jacinda Ardern [disputed allegations of bullying within the party,](https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2022/08/jacinda-ardern-disputes-labour-mp-s-bullying-allegations-says-attempts-to-resolve-issues-not-necessarily-welcomed.html) saying she had seen "no evidence".
* A former staffer to Sharma [told the Herald](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/parliament-bullying-claims-labour-mp-gaurav-sharmas-ex-staffer-speaks-out-after-being-left-in-tears/6Y6DUYVDRNWS6DPEVT7B4JT24Q/) there was an alleged culture of bullying that existed in Sharma's office, which they claimed was so bad they needed counselling.
* Labour chief whip Duncan Webb said his office became aware of issues between Sharma and his staff a year ago and [had been trying to work with him to address these issues](https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/472735/labour-responds-to-hamilton-west-mp-gaurav-sharma-s-allegations-of-bullying-at-parliament) as recently as the day before his column was publicised.
* Ardern said a "number of interventions" had been made to try to resolve issues in Dr Sharma's office, but these had "given rise to some issues from Gaurav's perspective".
* Ardern said it was her understanding a resolution had been reached with Sharma the day before he aired his frustrations to the media over his staffing.
* PM said, “"Staff had claimed that they were being treated poorly. And an intervention was rightly made to try and correct that situation. Then what has essentially been performance management has been turned into accusations of bullying, I've seen nothing to substantiate that."
* Sharma published a lengthy statement on Facebook, making more specific claims of bullying and calling for an independent investigation into his concerns as well as the complaints against him, naming former Chief Whip Kieran McAnulty as one of those responsible.
* Sharma claimed he had been gaslit, shouted at, degraded in front of caucus members, told he was a terrible MP, and that none of his concerns, nor claims against him, had been investigated.
* Sharma revealed he had complained to Parliamentary Service in August 2021 about alleged misuse of taxpayer’s money, which he claimed had never been looked into.
* Parliamentary Service chief executive Rafael Gonzalez-Montero refuted this and said the complaint was looked into in 2021 and it was determined the expenditure was for parliamentary business and, therefore, not in breach of the rules.

Monday 15th August

The Prime Minister [spent her Monday morning media round](https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2022/08/pm-jacinda-ardern-not-standing-down-mps-accused-of-bullying-says-she-s-seen-nothing-to-substantiate-claims.html) continuing to dispute the MP's allegations of widespread bullying.  Ardern said she hoped to see the issue resolved during the week, but wouldn't commit to any independent investigation into what Dr Sharma was complaining about.

* Back in his electorate, Dr Sharma had spent the weekend at community events and with constituents.

23rd August, 4:03 pm – Stuff NZ: Luke Malpass, Bridie Witton, Glenn McConnell

* Labour MPs vote to expel Sharma from party caucus (60 MPs voted to expel, 1 abstention, 1 opposed)
* Labour Party’s NZ Council hasn’t ruled out investigating Sharma for misconduct
* Sharma wants “independent investigation” into his own claims of bullying, and into claims of bullying against himself
* Labour Party President, Claire Szabó, says possible punishment could include censure or expulsion from party

23rd August, 6:00 pm – News Hub

* Expelled MP Gaurav Sharma says he’s on the “Path of Truth”, but unclear where his political career is going
* "I think asking for an independent fair trial is something that all New Zealanders should have the right to ask for, whether you work in Parliament or you work anywhere else," Dr Sharma said on Tuesday
* The Hamilton West MP [has spent the last 12 days publicly accusing Labour MP](https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2022/08/gaurav-sharma-labour-mp-s-week-of-bombshells-bullying-allegations.html)s of bullying, the Prime Minister of conducting a cover-up, and the party of teaching politicians how to circumvent freedom of information laws.