Advice from Solicitor, 26th January 2016.

My view is that we need to raise a "new complaint" so that the Local Authority shall deal with it and if not the Local Government Ombudsman can deal with it. The new complaint being the misinformation/ misrepresentation in supplying information to the Local Government Ombudsman. Hopefully this can be dealt with as a "new" matter. If this complaint is not dealt with by South Tyneside Council, and it may well be that they say it relates to the old complaint, then I believe justifies going straight to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Therefore the draft letter should incorporate references to the information being given to the Local Government Ombudsman in his investigation.

Yours sincerely