

**Councillor John Wild**

**18 March 2020**

**Report of the Standards Committee**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Council of the findings of the Standards Committee, and the sanctions imposed, following a hearing regarding breaches of the Councillors' Code of Conduct by Councillor John Wild.

This report is public.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(1) That the report be noted.**

**1.0 Background**

1.1 The Standards Committee held a hearing on 12 February 2020 (reconvened from the adjourned meeting held on Thursday 16 January 2020). The hearing related to allegations on of misconduct by Councillor John Wild regarding the unauthorised release of personal and confidential information to the media.

**2.0 Findings of the Committee**

2.1 The allegations concerned Councillor Wild releasing confidential information to the Lancaster Guardian which contained personal data, together with details of a previous standards investigation that had not yet been concluded. Following an investigation into this alleged breach, Councillor Wild then released the confidential investigation report to a number of people, including the media. Councillor Wild also failed to co-operate with the investigation process by not attending interviews or putting unreasonable barriers in the way of the appointed investigator.

2.2 The Standards Committee upheld the complaint that Councillor Wild had breached the Code of Conduct on a number of occasions in relation to selflessness and accountability.

2.3 The Committee imposed sanctions, as follows:

- a) *That Councillor Wild be censured in the public minutes with a report to full council and a press release.*
- b) *That the Standards Committee recommend that Councillor Wild undertake further training on the Councillors' Code of Conduct and GDPR and that this be offered within the next three months.*

### 3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This report is submitted by the Committee accordance with Rule 2.1 (i) of the Council Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution, and is for noting.

<b>CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b> (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing) None.	
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>  This report is submitted to Council for noting, as required by the sanctions imposed by the Standards Committee.	
<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>  There are no financial implications as a result of this report.	
<b>OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources; Information Services; Property; Open Spaces:</b>  None.	
<b>SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS</b>  The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
<b>MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS</b>  The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>  Investigating Officer's report submitted to the Standards Committee.	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Debbie Chambers <b>Telephone:</b> 01524 582057 <b>E-mail:</b> dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk <b>Ref:</b>