

Case review – lessons learnt so far

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Chair: Paul Gott, Board Member,
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Outline of session

- Interpretation of the Code
- Range of sanctions

Interpretation of the Code

- Disrepute
- Disrespect
- Confidentiality
- Personal and prejudicial interests

Disrepute

Coleman

“the circumstances must be sufficiently proximate to, or reasonably be capable of being linked to or having a bearing on, the official capacity”

Disrepute

Sloam

Myers-Hewitt

M and H Judge

Disrespect

“unfair, unreasonable or demeaning behaviour directed by one person against others”

Disrespect

Thomson

Paragraph 2(b) of the Code does not apply to:
“unidentified members of a class or classes of person not present, who may take offence at language or conduct, not specifically directed at them”

Disrespect

Sanders

Adami

Wilcox

Disrespect

Croft

“undermined and demeaned”

“inability to disentangle his personal preferences from his public duty”

“dominating sense of loyalty to previous leader”

Confidentiality

Dimoldenberg

“Ethical standards officer to establish that on the balance of probabilities it was in the public interest that certain confidential information remained outside the public domain”

Confidentiality

Melton

Davies

Gill

Personal and prejudicial interests

Murphy

“policy of promoting transparency in local government that lies at the heart of the Code’s drafting”

“public’s confidence in local government is to a great extent dependent on its perception of the probity of its members”

Personal and prejudicial interests

Davies

Scrivens

Williams

Range of sanctions

- Disrepute
- Disrespect
- Confidentiality
- Personal and prejudicial interests

Disrepute

M and H Judge

Sloam and Councillor Ward

Smith

Disrepute

Pilkington

“Child pornography leads to councillor banned for five years”

“Shock over porn claims”

“He tried to shift blame to innocent colleagues”

Disrepute

Hartshorne

“disqualify from becoming a member of the parish council for nine months”

Disrespect

Davies

Wilcox

Disrespect

Prior

“respondent demonstrated a lack of insight even with the benefit of hindsight”

“necessary to disqualify the respondent...reflect further on his conduct and to maintain public confidence in the Code”

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