Convener
Local Government & Communities Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
ED99 1SP

Dear Convener

Committee Evidence – Supplementary Information

I was asked by Annabelle Ewing MSP at the committee meeting on 6 February about the sanctions which had been applied by the Standards Commission in cases where councillors were found, following a public Hearing, to have breached the Councillors’ Code relating to the registration and declaration of interests. I did not have the information to hand and undertook to submit it to you for cases heard during my period in office.

Registration of Interests

A councillor was suspended for three months from all Council and Committee meetings after being found to have breached paragraphs 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8 and 4.22 of the Code (Ref: LA/EL/1654). In seven other cases, councillors were censured in respect of breaches of the rules on registration of interests.

Declaration of Interests

A councillor was suspended for three months from all meetings following a finding at a public hearing of a breach of paragraph 5.7 of the Code (Ref: LA/AB/1503). Another public hearing led to a councillor being suspended for two months from all planning decisions in respect of breaches of paragraphs 5.7, 5.12, 5.13 and 7.12 of the Code (Ref: LA/Fi/1501, 1516 & 1518). A councillor was suspended for two months from all meetings following a hearing which found a breach of paragraphs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.10 of the Code (Ref: LA/An/1772). In seven other cases, following public hearings, councillors have been censured in respect of breaches of the rules on declaration of interests.

Please let me know if any other information is required.

Yours sincerely

Bill Thomson
Commissioner

7 February 2019