



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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www.stroud.gov.uk



Member Code of Conduct Complaint

Decision Notice

Subject Member Councillor Nicholas Housden

Decision Date: 7 August 2023

Decision: Complaint upheld

Summary of Complaint

This complaint centred around an email sent by Councillor Housden to members of the Councils planning department and the Chair of the Development Control Committee. The contents of the email are alleged to be a breach of the Members Code of Conduct and the Member-Officer Protocol.

Standards Hearing

The complaint was considered by the Standards Sub-Committee on 7 August 2023. Full minutes of the hearing are available on the Council website: www.stroud.gov.uk

The decision of the Standards Sub-Committee

On the balance of probabilities, the Sub-Committee concluded:

- Councillor Housden has breached part IV, paragraph 7(1) of the Members Code of Conduct, which requires members to treat everyone with respect; and
- Due to the derogatory nature of the email, Councillor Housden has also breached paragraph 2.12 of the Member-Officer Protocol

Sanctions

The Sub-Committee noted the apology issued by Councillor Housden on 2 August 2023.

Councillor Housden is required to attend training with the Monitoring Officer on the standards expected from members by no later 8 November 2023.

Appeal

There is no right of appeal against this decision.

Claire Hughes

Monitoring Officer

Stroud District Council

7 August 2023

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