

Ethical Governance and Personnel Committee

DECISION NOTICE: BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Reference 2024/01

Subject Member: Councillor CW Boothby, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

We notify all concerned parties in writing once we have determined a complaint. This decision notice will be sent to

- The person making the allegation
- The Subject Member

Complaint

The Ethical Governance and Personnel Committee considered a complaint that Councillor Boothby had allegedly breached the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Code of Conduct by failing to treat the complainant with respect.

It was alleged that the subject member had failed to comply with the above by:

- (i) verbally attacking a member of school teaching staff while they were supervising young children attending a pantomime.
- (ii) Being rude and aggressive to the drivers of the coaches that were in attendance whilst challenging their parking

Decision

Following a full investigation and a hearing, members were in agreement that the subject member had been acting in an official capacity and their interactions with the teacher and the coach driver had breached the code of conduct in terms of disrespect. They felt, however, that the subject member's behaviour had not reached the bullying and harassment threshold.

SANCTIONS AGREED

1. Formal apology to be written by the subject member to the teacher/school
2. Additional training on the code of conduct be undertaken by the subject member
3. A formal letter be written to the member concerned highlighting the failings in their conduct
4. A recommendation be put to council to remove the subject member from Planning Committee for 12 months
5. A press release be issued on the nature of the complaint and the committee's decision and the same information be published on the council's website
6. A recommendation be put to Council that the subject member be censured.