

Standards Committee

18 February 2011



Decision of the First Tier Tribunal in the Appeal by Councillor Blenkinsopp against the Decision of the Standards Committee

Report of Colette Longbottom, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Members following the decision of the First Tier Tribunal in Councillor Blenkinsopp's appeal against the decision of the Standards Committee.

Background

2. Councillor Blenkinsopp of Great Aycliffe Town Council appealed against the Standards Committee's finding that he failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.
3. On 13 January 2011 the First Tier Tribunal upheld the decision of the Standards Committee that Councillor Blenkinsopp breached the Code of Conduct.
4. The First Tier Tribunal varied the sanction imposed by Standards Committee from a suspension of three months to a suspension of one month to start from the date of the hearing. A copy of the decision of the First Tier Tribunal is attached as Appendix 1 and a copy of the Reasons for the Decision is attached as Appendix 2.

Recommendations and Reasons

5. Standards Committee is requested to note the content of this report.

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