

**REPORT OF**    **Head of Legal and Governance**  
**To:**            **Full Council**  
**Subject:**      **Standards Hearing – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021**  
**Date:**         **8<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**Reference:**

<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT:</b> For Members to consider whether or not to continue the sanctions against Cllr Leonard Ford
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**1. INTRODUCTION**

This matter was previously presented to Full Council on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 following recommendations made by the Standards Committee after a Standards Hearing was convened in respect of allegations against Cllr Leonard Ford.

**2. REPORT**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 Full Council resolved to approve the recommendations from the Standards Committee.

In addition it was also resolved to issue a press release condemning Cllr Ford's behaviour and remove Cllr Ford's Torridge District Council email with a review after a period of 6 months for Full Council to consider whether his Torridge District Council email should be reinstated.

**3. IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Implications

None.

Financial Implications

Human Resources Implications

None.

Sustainability/Biodiversity Implications

None.

Equality/Diversity

None.

Risk Management

Compliance with Policies and Strategies



### Data Protection (GDPR) Implications

Confidential information pertaining to members of the public that had made complaints.

### Climate Change

None.

## **4. CONCLUSIONS**

The Standards Committee previously resolved the following:-

1. Cllr Ford should write written apologies to all complainants where the complaints were upheld;
2. To recommend to Full Council that Cllr Ford be excluded from the Council's offices or other premises with the exception of meeting rooms as necessary for attending Full Council, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings. Cllr Ford to only attend the offices on other occasions by making prior arrangements with the Chief Executive.

As Cllr Ford failed to write any apologies the matter was referred to Full Council, for consideration.

Full Council additionally resolved to remove Cllr Ford's Torridge District Council email address for 6 months and re-instatement be reviewed after this period.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members decide whether or not to continue to remove Cllr Ford's Torridge District Council email address for the remainder of his Councillor term.

Members to decide whether or not to continue that Cllr Ford is excluded from the Council's offices or other premises with the exception of meeting rooms as necessary for attending Full Council, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings. Cllr Ford to only attend the offices on other occasions by making prior arrangements with the Chief Executive.

The continuation of the sanctions is supported by The Standards Committee.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Consultations:	Date of Consultation –20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 Officers Consulted – The Chief Executive, Chair of Standards Committee ; Standards Committee
Contact Officer:	Head of Legal and Governance (and Monitoring Officer)
Background Papers:	Full Council Reports – Previous Press Release

