

Case Ref No: **BHC-009921**

## **STANDARDS PANEL HEARING**

### **DECISION NOTICE**

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| <b>DATE OF HEARING:</b>                        | 18 March 2013  |
| <b>SUBJECT MATTER:</b>                         | Allegation that a Member failed to comply with the Code of Conduct for Members |
| <b>COMPLAINANT:</b>                            | Ms Angela Pereira  |
| <b>CHAIRMAN:</b>                               | Councillor Lepper  |
| <b>HEARING PANEL MEMBERS:</b>                  | Councillors Lepper, A Norman, and Sykes  |
| <b>INDEPENDENT PERSON AND CO-OPTED MEMBER:</b> | Dr David Horne   |
| <b>INVESTIGATING OFFICER:</b>                  | Brian Foley, Standards & Complaints Manager                                    |
| <b>DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER:</b>            | Ross Keatley   |

#### **THE DECISION**

The Panel determined that Councillor Wealls did NOT fail to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, and it is satisfied that there has been no breach of paragraph 3(1) of the Code of Conduct.

#### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The Panel have read the report by the Monitoring Officer, and after close questioning of the report they concurred with the Monitoring Officer's conclusion and reasons that there had been no breach of the Code of Conduct.

Whilst the Panel would have preferred both parties to be present at the hearing to answer questions, their non-attendance did not affect the deliberations or unanimity of the Panel's decision that there had been no breach of the Code of Conduct.

**RELEVANT SECTION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

3(1): You must treat others with respect

**RIGHT OF APPEAL**

There is a right of appeal for the complainant and the subject member against the decision of the Standards Panel. This is without prejudice to the right of the complainant to refer the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman.

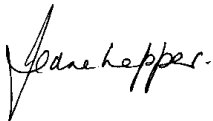
If either person wishes to exercise this right, they should write to the council's Monitoring Officer\*, stating they wish to appeal the Standards Panel decision, with reasons for doing so. A request for an appeal must be received within 10 working days of 18 March 2013.

\* Address: Brighton & Hove City Council, King's House, Grand Avenue, Hove, BN3 2LS

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:**

**We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Council's procedure for determining an allegation that a Member has failed to comply with the Code of Conduct for Members**

Signed:  
Standards Panel Chair



Proper Officer:  
Mark Wall, Head of Democratic  
Services



Date: 18 March 2013