

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	2 nd March 2016
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive
TITLE OF REPORT	Standards Commission for Scotland, Written Decision
REPORT NUMBER	OCE/16/003
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Council for its consideration the written decision made by the Standards Commission for Scotland following a hearing held on 12th January 2016.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. That the Council considers the content of the written decision and notes the sanction made by the Standards Commission for Scotland; and
- ii. That the Council instructs the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to issue a reminder to all members of the importance of due care and consideration when handling information that is of a confidential, exempt or data protected nature.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The report has no financial implications for the Council.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

In terms of section 18 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act and rule 10.9 of the Standards Commission's Hearing Rules, the Standards Commission is required to afford any Council or Devolved Body which receives a copy of a written decision a period of three months (or longer as the Standards Commission may determine) to consider the content of that decision. Section 18(3) of the Act provides that this consideration cannot be undertaken solely by a Committee, Sub-Committee or Officers of the relevant Council or Public Body.

The Council is required to notify the Standards Commission by 13th April 2016 of any actions or decisions taken by the Council as a result of the written decision.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Attached to this report is a copy of the Standards Commission for Scotland's written decision following a hearing held on 12th January 2016 further to a complaint concerning alleged contraventions of the Councillors' Code of Conduct by Councillor Willie Young.

It is recommended that the Council considers the content of the written decision and notes the sanction made by the Standards Commission for Scotland.

6. IMPACT

The report is likely to be of interest to the public and media.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The report brings before the Council information relating to a process undertaken by a third-party. There would be a danger of reputational risk to the Council if it failed to consider the written decision of the Standards Commission for Scotland and to take appropriate action.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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