



WARDS AFFECTED
All

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

FULL COUNCIL

20th November 2025

MOTION OF CENSURE – COUNCILLOR PATRICK KITTERICK

Report of the Monitoring Officer

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. The Standards Committee has considered a complaint made against Councillor Patrick Kitterick and recommended that Council censures him, having found that there have been multiple breaches of the Member Code of Conduct. The relevant materials are published on the Standards Committee webpages here - [\(Public Pack\)Standards Hearing Decision Notice and Investigators Report Agenda Supplement for Standards Committee, 29/10/2025 17:30](#)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. Council is recommended to vote to censure Councillor Patrick Kitterick for his misconduct.

3. REPORT

- 3.1. On 3rd December 2025 the Monitoring Officer received a complaint from Richard Sword, Strategic Director City Development and Neighbourhoods making allegations of breaches of

the Member Code of Conduct against Councillor Kitterick following a briefing provided to Councillor Kitterick by officers on 11th November 2024.

- 3.2. The Monitoring Officer and Independent Person (Mr David Lindley) agreed that the breach was (i) potentially serious and (ii) not amenable to informal resolution. On 17th December 2024 the Monitoring Officer commissioned Mr Alex Oram, Independent Investigator, to carry out an investigation.
- 3.3. The matter was referred to the Standards Advisory Board and considered at its meeting of the 9th July 2025. The decision of the Board was to refer the matter to a Hearing Panel for determination of the complaint.
- 3.4. The Hearing Panel took place at 5pm on 21st October 2025 to consider the complaint and make any findings and recommendations deemed appropriate.
- 3.5. The specific Findings were as follows:
 - i. **That Councillor Kitterick has breached paragraph 2(a) of the City Council's Code of Conduct by failing to treat others with respect.** On 11th November 2024 during a briefing he received from three senior officers over a matter that affected his Ward he was aggressive, angry, rude and offensive. He impugned the credibility and integrity of the officers by using language that questioned their motives, and the veracity of their briefing. His comments extended to personal criticism of officers, going beyond legitimate critique of the issues.
 - ii. **That Councillor Kitterick has breached paragraph 2(b) of the City Council's Code of Conduct by bullying.** His repeated interruptions, aggressive tone and personal criticism of the Director of Housing amounted to being offensive, insulting and humiliating. This conduct went well beyond what could reasonably be considered as robust criticism of ideas, policies and issues and it amounted to a misuse of power.
 - iii. **That Councillor Kitterick has breached paragraph 2(d) of the City Council's Code of Conduct by failing to respect the confidentiality of information entrusted to him as an Elected Member.** He used information provided in a briefing and disclosed it immediately to

a journalist. We are satisfied that officers were clear in the meeting that the information being imparted was sensitive, and that it was being provided in confidence. Regardless of this, we find that as an experienced Councillor of over 22 years he knew, or ought reasonably to have been aware, that the content of the briefing was confidential.

- iv. **That Councillor Kitterick has, for all of the above reasons, breached paragraph 2(i) of the Code of Conduct by bringing the Council into disrepute.** His conduct has both adversely affected the reputation of the Council's Elected Members in being able to fulfil their role and has had the effect of reducing public confidence in the Council being able to fulfil its functions and duties.

3.6. The specific recommendations were as follows:

- i. **Councillor Kitterick to send a written apology, within 14 days of the Committee hearing to take place on 29th October 2025, to all three officers for the disrespect shown to them.** The deadline for completion of this recommendation is Thursday 13th November 2025. At the time of writing, no apologies have been issued.
- ii. **Written censure of Councillor Kitterick by issuing of this Decision Notice to him by the Monitoring Officer on behalf of the Standards Committee.** This was issued by the Monitoring Officer to Councillor Kitterick on 29th October 2025
- iii. **That there be a press release of the findings.** This was issued on 30th October 2025
- iv. **That a copy of the investigative report be released into the public domain.** This was issued as part of the press release
- v. **That the findings of the Panel be reported to Full Council, with a recommendation for a motion of censure to be passed.** This is the focus of this report
- vi. **That the Monitoring Officer arranges training for Councillor Kitterick on the Code of Conduct.** This will be arranged once Councillor Kitterick responds positively to the Monitoring Officer's request, issued on 29th October 2025

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial Implications

The cost of the Independent Investigation were £6011.80 + VAT, total £7,214.16

4.2. Legal Implications

The Council's regime for dealing with allegations of Elected Member misconduct allegations complies with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. (Kamal Adatia, City Barrister).

4.3. Climate Change Implications

None

4.4 Equality Implications

The Code of Conduct requires all Councillors to take an active role in upholding the authority's equality duties. Specifically, this means working to **eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and foster good relations.**

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

6. REPORT AUTHOR

6.1. Kamal Adatia, City Barrister and Head of Standards.