

To: Council
Date: 24 November 2025
Report of: Monitoring Officer
Title of Report: Recommendation from the Standards Committee to censure Councillor Latif

Summary and recommendations	
Decision being taken:	The Local Hearing Panel of the Standards Committee found that Councillor Latif had breached the Council's Code of Member Conduct and that the sanction imposed should be the formal censure of the full Council.
Key decision:	No
Cabinet Member:	N/A
Corporate Priority:	None.
Policy Framework:	None.

Recommendation(s): That the Council resolves to:
1. Censure Councillor Latif in respect of the finding that he breached the Members' Code of Conduct.

Information Exempt From Publication	
State in here what information is to be exempt from publication – where it is, attach it as an appendix and name the appendix as you describe it here	N/A

Introduction and background

1. Complaints were received by the Monitoring Officer concerning the behaviour of Cllr Latif at the full Council meeting on the 18 March 2024 when he repeatedly challenged the Lord Mayor, Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive, speaking over them and disrupting the meeting.

2. At its meeting on 19 June 2025 the Local Hearing Panel (the Panel) considered two complaints that Councillor Latif had breached the Members' Code of Conduct. The complaints related to conduct at the meeting of the full Council on 18 March 2024. It was specifically found that Cllr Latif had breached the Code of Conduct as follows:
 - The Panel unanimously agreed that Councillor Latif was in breach of the Code of Conduct in relation to a lack of respect and disregard for professional advice.
 - The Panel accepted and agreed with the findings and conclusions of the External Investigator's report.
 - The Panel found Councillor Latif's actions were intimidating, insulting, undermining and denigrating to officers and councillors. However, it was not agreed upon that this had exceeded the threshold to be considered as bullying.
 - The Panel agreed that Councillor Latif's conduct brought the Council into disrepute.
 - That Councillor Latif had therefore breached sections 6.1, 6.4 and 6.5 of the Code of Conduct in relation to respect, giving due regard to professional advice and bringing the Council into disrepute.
3. The Panel determined that the sanction to be imposed is the censure of the full Council. In addition, the Panel recommended that Councillor Latif undertake further Code of Conduct training, specifically around rules of attending committees, and that he issues a formal apology to the Monitoring Officer, Lord Mayor and Chief Executive.

Financial implications

4. There are no financial implications arising from the report.

Legal issues

5. Censure is one of the sanctions available where a councillor is found to have breached the Code of Conduct.

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Background Papers:	
1	(Public Pack)Minutes Document for Standards Committee, 19/06/2025 18:00