

The States of Alderney Code of Conduct for States Members

Code of Conduct Panel

In the matter of a complaint in connection with an alleged breach of the States of Alderney Code of Conduct for States Members

Against: Mr Bruce Woodhead, States Member

Panel: Roy Burke (Chair), Peter Cunningham, Donald Hughes (Members)

Date of Complaint: 13 November

Date of Decision: 1 December 2023

DECISION

- 1 This is a decision in respect of a complaint under the States of Alderney Code of Conduct for States Members (the Code) under paragraph 6 of the Code.
- 2 The complainant alleges that confidential information had been inappropriately shared with a third party by Mr Woodhead thereby breaching the Code of Conduct and in so doing had failed to meet the requirements set out in the Code to respect confidentiality.
- 3 The Panel was appointed on 28 November 2023.

Consideration

- 4 On 29 December copies of all documents provided to the Panel were sent to Mr Woodhead by e-mail. Mr Woodhead was invited to comment or adduce documents of his own. Mr Woodhead replied on 30 November stating that he did not contest the information provided. In mitigation he asserted that he was acting in the best interest

of the States and that his actions caused no harm to the process that was underway. There is no evidence that confidential information was more widely shared.

- 5 The Panel Members considered all the evidence submitted, and initially concluded that while there was indeed a breach of the Code given the circumstances the breach was of a minor nature and as such a caution was offered under Section 13.2.3 (ii). The Panel accept that there were mitigating factors to take into account when considering this matter.
- 6 Mr Woodhead has accepted the caution.
- 7 Having found that Mr Woodhead was in breach of the Code of Conduct, and after taking into account all the evidence, the unanimous decision of the Panel is that a caution is sufficient.

Roy Burke, Chair
Peter Cunningham
Donald Hughes