



# London Borough of Hounslow

## **Summary of the decision of the Standards Committee in relation to Councillor Jirwan Virk – December 2009**

The Standards Committee has recently concluded an investigation into an allegation of breach of the Members' Code of Conduct made against Councillor Jirwan Virk, who represents Bedfont Ward.

The complaints investigated were that he failed to declare an interest at a meeting of the West Area Committee and further that he failed to register the interests he had in a number of properties in the Borough on the Register of Members' Interests.

The Standards Committee made the following findings:

- That Cllr Virk had not failed to declare an interest in a property in Sparrow Farm Drive, as he did not own that property on the date of the meeting in question having previously sold it.
- That Cllr Virk had failed to declare in the Members' Register of Interests, in declarations made in May 2006 and November 2008, his interest in two properties in the borough.

In terms of the second finding, the Standards Committee concluded that Cllr Virk was in breach of paragraph 13 of the Members' Code of Conduct and took the view that it was appropriate to partially suspend him for a period of three months from Wednesday 23 December 2009.

This partial suspension means that he will not be able to sit on the West Area Committee (Planning), the Revenues Appeal Panel or any scrutiny body during this period. It does not affect his attendance at Borough Council or the West Area Committee (Monitoring) Committee which the Standards Committee considered he should still be able to attend in order to serve his constituents.

This partial suspension will conclude on 22 March 2010.