



Judicial Conduct
Investigations Office

STATEMENT

JCIO 49/18

23 November 2018

STATEMENT FROM THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS OFFICE

Mr Ian Howarth JP

A spokesperson from the Judicial Conduct Investigations Office said:

"Mr Ian Howarth JP, a magistrate from the West Yorkshire Bench, has been issued with a formal warning for making statements in a private capacity on social media about three individuals, implying that they were involved in criminal activity for which one of their relations was convicted. Mr Howarth issued a formal apology in the local press and made a donation to a charity chosen by the individuals. The Lord Chancellor and Mrs Justice Cheema-Grubb DBE on behalf of the Lord Chief Justice concluded that Mr Howarth's behaviour fell below the high standards expected of a judicial office holder and amounted to misconduct."

ENDS

Notes for Editors

Media queries in relation to the JCIO should be made in the first instance to the Judicial Press Office – telephone 020 7073 4852 or via e-mail – press.enquiries@judiciary.uk

For more information about the Office, including details on how to make a complaint against a judicial office holder, you can visit the JCIO website at: <http://judicialconduct.judiciary.gov.uk>