



JCIO 24/16

22 June 2016

**STATEMENT FROM THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT
INVESTIGATIONS OFFICE**

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Mrs Margaret Gilmour JP

A spokesperson for the Judicial Conduct Investigations Office said:

"Mrs Margaret Gilmour JP, a magistrate assigned to the Avon and Somerset Bench, wrote to a national newspaper in response to a comment reported from the Director of Public Prosecutions. The Lord Chancellor and Mr Justice Leggatt, on behalf of the Lord Chief Justice found that the tone and content of the letter, including the implication that Mrs Gilmour was speaking for magistrates generally, were inappropriate and failed to show the circumspection and sound judgement expected of a magistrate. The Lord Chancellor and Mr Justice Leggatt concluded that her behaviour amounted to misconduct and have issued Mrs Gilmour with a formal warning."

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.gsi.gov.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>