



STATEMENT

OJC 38/10

30 December 2010

STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE FOR JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS

MR PHILIP BYRNE

A spokesperson for the Office for Judicial Complaints said:

“Mr Byrne, a magistrate appointed to the Merseyside Bench, was convicted and sentenced on 2 March 2010, for the offence of driving a motor vehicle having consumed alcohol in such quantity that the proportion in his blood exceeded the prescribed limit. He was disqualified from driving for 12 months, fined £450 and ordered to pay court costs. A conduct investigation by the local Advisory Committee found that he had brought the magistracy into disrepute. They recommended that he should be removed from the magistracy. The Lord Chancellor and Lord Chief Justice have agreed with these findings and removed Mr Byrne from the Bench.”

ENDS

Notes for Editors

Media queries in relation to the OJC should be made in the first instance to the Judicial Communications 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 OJC website at: <http://www.judicialcomplaints.gov.uk/>