

## CARRY ON COUNCILLOR

**A**BERDEEN city councillor Alan Donnelly was found guilty of sexual assault in December – he groped, sexually harassed and kissed a waiter at a civic function – but he sees this as no impediment to carrying on as a councillor, although he has quit the Conservative party.

At his sentencing hearing on 31 January, Aberdeen sheriff Ian Wallace told Donnelly his actions were “entirely inappropriate and distressing”, placing him on the sex offenders

register and ordering him to pay £800 to his victim. Wallace said: “I’d hope your actions are a source of shame and embarrassment to yourself. The evidence against you was overwhelming. To deny what happened was ludicrous.”

Donnelly’s conviction continues Aberdeen’s long political sex scandal tradition. Gordon Leslie, a Lib Dem city councillor, resigned when charges were brought relating to his kerb-crawling activities in 2011: he got off with a fine. Former SNP MSP Mark McDonald quit over sexual harassment allegations: he was given a £7,200 resettlement grant! Last year Aberdeen South MP Ross Thomson was accused of groping men in parliament’s Strangers Bar. Must be something in the water!