

Report sponsor: Director of Legal, Procurement  
and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer  
Report author: Director of Legal, Procurement  
and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

## **Volume and Outcomes of Councillor Complaints 2022/23 & 2023/24**

### **Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on the volume and outcomes of Councillor complaints dealt with in the 2022/23 municipal year and the 2023/24 municipal year.

### **Recommendation**

- 2.1 To note the volume and outcome of Councillor complaints in 2022/23 and 2023/24 as outlined in the report.

### **Reason**

- 3.1 To update the Standards Committee on the volume and outcomes of councillor complaints dealt with in the 2023/24 municipal year.
- 3.2 As the final meeting of the 2022/23 municipal year was cancelled, the report also provides an opportunity to update the Standards Committee on the volume and outcomes of Councillor complaints carried over from the 2021/22 municipal year and those received in the 2022/23 municipal year.

### **Supporting information**

- 4.1 Four complaints were carried over from the 2021/22 municipal year to the 2022/23 municipal year. Two of those proceeded to investigation and were dismissed, one proceeded to investigation and was dismissed following an informal resolution being found and the fourth complaint was dismissed.
- 4.2 Six complaints were received in the 2022/23 municipal year and were all dismissed in that year.
- 4.3 Five complaints have been received in the 2023/24 municipal year. One has been dismissed and the other four are still live, at the point of publication.
- 4.4 It is important to note that when a complaint is dismissed, this includes circumstances by which a subject member has taken steps to resolve a complaint by way of an informal resolution to the satisfaction of the Monitoring Officer. This could include a written apology or some other form of corrective action by the councillor concerned.

- 4.5 The Councillors' Code of Conduct and the Procedures for the assessment and review of allegations of breaches of the Councillors' Code of Conduct are attached at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

### **Public/stakeholder engagement**

- 5.1 None.

### **Other options**

- 6.1 To take no action.

### **Financial and value for money issues**

- 7.1 None.

### **Legal implications**

- 8.1 Under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011, the Council is required to have a Code of Conduct for its Councillors and to establish and maintain arrangements for dealing with complaints about their conduct.

### **Climate implications**

- 9.1 None.

### **Socio-Economic Implications**

- 10.1 None.

### **Other significant implications**

- 11.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal		
Finance		
Service Director(s)		
Report sponsor		
Other(s)	Alex Hough – Head of Democracy	31/07/2023

Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 - Councillors' Code of Conduct Appendix 2 - Procedures for the assessment and review of allegations of breaches of the Councillors' Code of Conduct