



STANDARDS COMMITTEE 24 January 2023

ITEM 7

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

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.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the volume and outcome of Councillor complaints 2022/23 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 2022/23 municipal year.

Supporting information

- 4.3 Four complaints were carried over from the 2021/22 municipal year. Two complaints concern the same Councillor and are broadly related. Both are being investigated and the Monitoring Officer is awaiting the outcome of those investigations. One complaint has been investigated and the Monitoring Officer is seeking an informal resolution, this matter is now very close to conclusion. In relation to the fourth complaint, the Monitoring Officer has consulted with the Independent Person Advisory Panel and is considering the next steps.
- 4.4 Six complaints have been received in the 2022/23 municipal year. Four complaints have been dismissed and two are still live.
- 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)	Emily Feenan - Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer	16/01/2023
Report sponsor Other(s)	Alex Hough – Head of Democracy	16/01/2023
Background papers: List of appendices:	None Appendix 1 - Councillors' Code of Conduct Appendix 2 - Procedures for the assessment and review of allegations of breaches of the Councillors' Code of Conduct	