

Report to Standards Committee

Subject: Code of Conduct Complaints Update

Date: 11 March 2021

Author: Monitoring Officer

Purpose

To inform members of the Standards Committee of complaints received between 14 August 2020 and 1 March 2021.

Recommendation

THAT the report be noted.

1 Background

- 1.1 A summary of the number of complaints received since the implementation of the existing Standards regime (from 1 July 2012) is set out in the graph in Appendix 1. A summary of the complaints received since 2019/20 is set out in the table at Appendix 1. Since 14 August 2020, the Monitoring Officer has received six new code of conduct complaints.
- 1.2 Members of the Standards Committee will recall that at the time of the last committee meeting, 4 complaints were outstanding, 3 of which were subsequently treated as withdrawn. A summary of the decision made in relation to the one outstanding complaint from the previous meeting appears at Appendix 2.
- 1.3 Of the six new code of conduct complaints since 14 August 2020, one has been treated as withdrawn. At the time of drafting this report, five complaints are outstanding.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Committee notes the report.

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 Not to report code of complaints received by the Monitoring Officer.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 Code of Conduct complaints must be dealt with in accordance with the Council's Approved Arrangements for Dealing with Complaints.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

- 7.1 There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Summary of the Code of Conduct complaints received since 2019/20.
- 8.2 Exempt Appendix 2 – Summary of decisions on complaints determined between 14 August 2020 and 1 March 2021.

9 Background papers

- 9.1 None identified.