

Report to Standards Committee

Subject: Code of Conduct Complaints Update

Date: 21 September 2023

Author: Monitoring Officer

Purpose

To inform members of the Standards Committee of complaints received between 22 June 2023 and 21 September 2023.

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 2021/22 is set out in the table at Appendix 1. Since 22 June 2023, the Monitoring Officer has received 3 new valid code of conduct complaints.
- 1.2 Members of the Standards Committee will recall that at the time of the last committee meeting, 1 complaint was outstanding. The complaint outstanding at the last Committee has been concluded and the summary of decision in that case is attached at Appendix 2.
- 1.3 In relation to the 3 new complaints received one has been referred for investigation and the investigation is ongoing, the other two have concluded and full information in relation to those complaints can be found at Appendix 2 with a summary at Appendix 3.

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 however this would be contrary to the Council's arrangements for dealing with complaints.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 The costs associated with complaints are met from existing budgets.

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 1 July 2012.

8.2 Appendix 2 – Exempt Appendices – Summary of complaint determined between 22nd June 2023 and 21st September 2023.

8.3 Appendix 3 – Summary of complaints determined between 22nd June 2023 and 21st September 2023.

9 Background papers

9.1 None identified.

10 Reasons for Recommendation

10.1 To keep Committee updated on Code of Conduct Complaints

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by the Chief Financial Officer

Date:

Drafted by the Monitoring Officer