

Report to Standards Committee

Subject: Code of Conduct Complaints Update

Date: 19 March 2026

Author: Monitoring Officer

Purpose

To inform members of the Standards Committee of complaints received between 23 October 2025 and 19 March 2026.

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 2023/24 is set out in the table at Appendix 1. Since 23 October 2025, the Monitoring Officer has received ten new Code of Conduct complaints. Two of those complaints were not deemed to be valid complaints and were rejected. Of the eight remaining complaints at the point of publication, three have concluded and five are ongoing. Details of the three concluded complaints are included in Appendix 3.
- 1.2 Members may recall that at the last Committee, there was one complaint outstanding, this has now concluded and a summary of the complaint is at Appendix 2.

2 Proposal

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

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 Not to report code of conduct 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 any equality related matters are dealt with within individual complaint responses. The complaints process is accessible and complaints can be submitted in a number of formats.

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.

Appendix 2 – Outcome of complaint

Appendix 3 – Exempt Appendices

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

