

REPORT TO: Civic Affairs Committee

25 March 2021

LEAD OFFICER: Monitoring Officer

Update on Code of Conduct Complaints

Executive Summary

1. To update the Civic Affairs Committee on complaints cases regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct.

Recommendations

2. That the Civic Affairs Committee **note** the progress of any outstanding complaints and the conclusion of cases resolved since the last meeting.

Details

3. Progress since the last meeting in relation to Code of Conduct complaints is set out in the below table:

Matter Number	District/Parish Council	Allegation/complaint	Outcome
019180	Heydon Parish Council	<p>Allegations from the complainants against two members of the Parish Council that their actions breached the following parts of their code;</p> <p>3.1 provide leadership to the authority and the community within its area, by personal example and</p> <p>3.2 respect others and not bully or threaten or attempt to bully or threaten any person</p> <p>3.3.2 respect the confidentiality of information which you</p>	<p>After consultation with the Independent Person it was determined that the complaint largely related to matters that occurred when the Parish Councillors were not acting in their official capacity and therefore the Code was not engaged.</p> <p>When the code was engaged the matters did not merit a formal investigation as there had not been a breach of the Code.</p>

		<p>receive as a Member by not obstructing third parties' legal rights of access to information</p> <p>3.5 use your position as a Member in the public interest and not for personal advantage</p> <p>Failure to declare non-disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest</p>	
019181	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council	<p>Allegations from the complainants against a member of the Parish Council that their actions breached the Nolan principles and following parts of their code;</p> <p>You must treat others with respect and promote equality by not discriminating unlawfully against any person, and by treating people with respect, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity; and</p> <p>You must promote and support high standards of conduct.</p>	Matter ongoing
019182	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council	<p>Allegations from the complainant against 4 Councillors that;</p> <p>their actions breached the Nolan principles; and</p> <p>there was Maladministration; and</p>	Matter Ongoing

		They operated without authority; and Non adherence to published Complaints Procedures	
019252	SCDC	Allegation from the complainant that the member failed to declare a non-disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest at a meeting.	Matter Ongoing
019324	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth Parish Council	Allegations from the complainant against a member of the Parish Council that; their actions breached the Nolan principles and brought their office or Authority into disrepute; and there was Maladministration; and Their actions breach of the provisions of the Local Government act 1972.	Matter Ongoing

Implications

4. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, there are no significant implications.

Background Papers

Constitution – Code of Conduct

Ethical Handbook - Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure

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