

## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**REPORT TO:** Civic Affairs Committee

20th June 2013

**AUTHOR/S:** Monitoring Officer

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### UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

#### Purpose

1. To update members on complaints cases regarding alleged breaches of the code of conduct.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Civic Affairs Committee **note** the progress of outstanding complaints.

3. **Complaint cases concluded since last meeting:**

- (a) **CORCOM 221**

This complaint was made by a member of public (a former parish councillor) about a district councillor. The complainant alleged a number of breaches of the code of conduct. The complaint has now been discontinued.

4. **New complaint cases/cases outstanding at 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

- (a) **CORCOM 346**

This complaint was made by a parish councillor about a district councillor. The complainant alleges a number of breaches of the code of conduct. Correspondence has been taking place between the parties via the Monitoring Officer in relation to this complaint. A connected complaint has been made to the Information Commissioner and the complainant wishes to await the outcome of this before proceeding with the conduct complaint.

- (b) **CORCOM 574**

The complaint was made by a district councillor about two other district councillors in relation to the publication of a party political leaflet. Responses are currently awaited before the evidence will be considered by the Monitoring Officer and Independent Person so that a decision on how to proceed can be taken.

- (c) **CORCOM 575**

The complaint was made by a district councillor about two other district councillors in relation to a matter concerning assistance to a parish council. Responses are currently awaited before the evidence will be considered by the Monitoring Officer and Independent Person so that a decision on how to proceed can be taken.

5. **Other complaints**

The Monitoring Officer has also investigated a complaint from a former councillor about a district councillor in relation to behaviour just prior to the county council elections and found that no action needed to be taken.

The Monitoring Officer is currently advising in relation to on-going conduct-related issues at a number of parish councils.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** Localism Act 2011  
SCDC Code of Conduct Complaints procedures

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