Standards and Constitution Committee 5 December 2023

REVIEW OF CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

Head of Service: Piero Ionta, Head of Legal and Monitoring

Officer

Wards affected: (All Wards);

Appendices (attached): None

Summary

To provide an update on complaints made under the Code of Conduct for Members from 1/2/2022 to 27/11/2023.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

(1) Note there have been no complaints between 1 February 2022 to the 27 November 2023;

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 As there have been no complaints received since the last report was brought to this committee on 22 February 2022, Members are invited to note the situation between 1 February 2022 to 27 November 2023.

2 Background

- 2.1 Annual reporting of member complaints was requested to be a standing item on the Committee's agenda. The first and only report brought to this Committee since reporting was introduced as a standing item covered the period 1 January 2021 until 31 January 2022. That report was brought on 22 February 2022.
- 2.2 Since that time, there has been a change in the Council's Monitoring Officer (22 May 2023) so this report seeks to reflect the period between the last report (January 2022 May 2023) and the first six months of this municipal year. The next report will be due in December 2024 and shall cover 28 November 2023 late/end November 2024 and that will be the range of dates on a rolling annual basis hereinafter.

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- 2.3 Further to discussions held with the former Monitoring Officer, it was confirmed that there have been no complaints made under the Code about member conduct between 1 February 2022 and 22 May 2023. Further to this, there have been no complaints made under the Code about member conduct between 23 May 2023 and 27 November 2023.
- 2.4 Members will be aware that this meeting is due to consider the adoption of the Local Government Association (LGA) Model Code of Conduct for Members which it is hoped shall assist the both the Council and members when any future complaint is considered in accordance with the updated LGA guidance.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

- 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment
 - 3.1.1 None arising from the contents of this report.
- 3.2 Crime & Disorder
 - 3.2.1 None arising from the contents of this report.
- 3.3 Safeguarding
 - 3.3.1 None arising from the contents of this report.
- 3.4 Dependencies
 - 3.4.1 None arising from the contents of this report.
- 3.5 Other
 - 3.5.1 None.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 **Legal Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

- 6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged:
 - Effective Council.

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- 6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.
- 6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: None arising from the contents of this report.
- 6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: None arising from the contents of this report.
- 6.5 **Partnerships**: None.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

Standards and Constitution Committee, 22 February 2022.

Other papers:

None