

SCHEDULE OF COMPLAINTS

Complaints subject to formal investigation in accordance with the Arrangements for Dealing with Standards Allegations under the Localism Act 2011

1. Case Reference: MC/020719

This complaint arose following the review of an historic matter. The review highlighted concerns with the conduct of the investigation. This resulted in an allegation that the Councillor had not co-operated candidly and fully with the investigation. The matter was considered by the Independent person and the previous DMO and it was determined that a formal investigation was not appropriate.

The Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee was asked to review the previous DMO decision on 11 November 2019 and determined that the complaint for referred back for re-assessment. The re-assessment has been undertaken and the complaint has been referred for a formal investigation, which is ongoing.

2. Case Reference: MC/010719

This complaint arose following the review of a historic matter. The review highlighted concerns with the conduct of the investigation and the process that was followed. This resulted in an allegation that the Councillor had not co-operated candidly and fully with the investigation and had not questioned the conduct of others resulting in a potential breach of the Members' Code of Conduct and the Nolan principles. The matter was referred for investigation which is ongoing.

3. Case reference: MC/120220

A complaint was received that a number of subject members are alleged to have acted inappropriately in relation to council officers and/or failing to challenge inappropriate behaviour of elected members in breach of the Members' Code of Conduct. This matter

has been referred for formal investigation by the Monitoring Officer, which is ongoing.

4. Case Reference MC/140520

An allegation was received from a member of the public that a councillor failed to comply with Covid-19 guidance and caused reputational harm to another legal entity; and the subject member allegedly engaged in other inappropriate communications in social media in contravention of the Members' Code of Conduct. This matter has been referred for formal investigation and is ongoing.

5. Case reference MC/280520

This matter is linked to allegation MC/140520 above. The allegation was made by another complainant that the subject member failed to comply with COvid-19 guidance and then posted comments on social media which were inaccurate and in breach of the Members' Code of Conduct. This matter has been referred for formal investigation.

6. Case reference: MC/010730

An allegation was received that the subject member shared confidential staffing information with another councillor without justification, shared inaccurate information and interfered with an ongoing council process. This matter is linked to MC/O3/0720 below. The matter has been referred to formal investigation.

7. Case reference MC/030720

An allegation was received that a councillor shared confidential staffing information with another councillor. This matter is linked to MC/010720. The matter has been referred to formal investigation.

Other Matters

Case reference: MC/011119 - A complaint was received that the subject member alleged that the complainant was involved in the inappropriate treatment of Council officers and made unwarranted and un-evidenced defamatory comments about the complainant. This complaint is linked to complaint MC/120220 above. The Monitoring Officer, after seeking the

views of the Independent Person, decided that this complaint could not be dealt with until the outcome of complaint MC/120220 is first known given the nexus of law and fact arising. The matter will therefore be considered upon complaint MC/120220 being concluded.

Case reference MC/130520 – An allegation was received from the Complainant alleging that one of the Complainant’s Ward Councillors breached her confidentiality. The Complainant was unable to identify the Councillor in question and has refused to provide further information to ascertain the identity of the Councillor. Following discussion with the Independent Person, the Monitoring Officer has determined that no further action be taken in respect of this matter.

Case reference MC/080720 - An allegation was received that the subject member lied and/or provided false information concerning his election and residential status. Following initial enquiries, the subject member provided evidence that satisfied the requirements of section 79 Local Government Act 1972 concerning eligibility to stand and remain as a councillor; and had ensured his Register of Interests confirmed his place of residence within the borough as required under the Members’ Code of Conduct. The review of the complaint, conducted in accordance with Arrangements, led to the determination that no further action needs to be taken in respect of the complaint. The matter has been closed accordingly.

Two new complaints have been received by the Monitoring Officer against a number of members alleging failure to observe Covid-19 guidance. This matter is currently under initial assessment in accordance with the Arrangements.