

Date: 1 November 2017

Dear Councillor,

Standards Committee

A Meeting of the **Standards Committee** will be held in the **Council Chamber**, on **Thursday, 09 November 2017 at 18:00**. You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Executive

To:- **Conservative Group**
Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Atkin (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors
Mrs Hall and Stanton

Labour Group
Councillors Dunn and Dr Pearson

Independent Persons
Mr P Purnell and Mr P Smith

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

- 1** Apologies.
- 2** To receive the Open Minutes of the following Meeting:-

Standards Committee 8th December 2015 Open Minutes **3 - 4**
- 3** To note any declarations of interest arising from any items on the Agenda
- 4** To receive any questions by members of the public pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No.10.
- 5** To receive any questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11.
- 6** SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS **5 - 8**

Exclusion of the Public and Press:

- 7** The Chairman may therefore move:-
That in accordance with Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in the header to each report on the Agenda.
- 8** To receive any Exempt questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

8th December 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Stanton (Conservative Group).

Labour Group

Councillor Mrs Stuart.

Independent Persons

Mr P Purnell and Mr P Smith

SC/1 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillors Atkin (Conservative Group) and Pearson (Labour Group).

SC/2 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th April 2013 were noted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

SC/3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

SC/4 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO.10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

SC/5 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO.11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO SUB-COMMITTEE

SC/6 **SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS**

The Committee received the Report summarising the complaints investigated by the Monitoring Officer and the action taken in each case.

Mr Purnell observed that in all but one case no further action had been deemed necessary as they fell outside the remit of the Members Code of Conduct and queried the possible alternative options. The Monitoring Officer duly outlined the various alternative actions that can be considered. Mr Purnell commented on the protection of ethical standards, the work undertaken when complaints are received and the training provision in this area.

Councillor Harrison queried the cost implications relating these matters. The Monitoring Officer informed the Committee that such costs were budgeted for.

RESOLVED:-

That the summary of complaints considered by the Monitoring Officer and Independent Persons be noted.

The Meeting terminated at 6.10pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN

REPORT TO:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	9th NOVEMBER 2017	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	MONITORING OFFICER	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ARDIP KAUR - 595715 ardip.kaur@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

1.0 Reason for Exempt

1.1 Not applicable.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the summary of complaints considered by the Monitoring Officer and Independent Persons be noted.

3.0 Purpose of Report

3.1 To consider a summary of the complaints considered by the Monitoring Officer and Independent Persons under the Standards Regime as implemented by the Localism Act 2011.

4.0 Detail

4.1 The Localism Act 2011 made fundamental changes to the system of regulation of Standards of Conduct for Elected and Co-opted Members. The date for implementation of these changes was confirmed as 1st July 2012.

4.2 The report at Annexe A summarises the complaints made and actions taken by the Monitoring Officer. The Localism Act 2011 requires the Monitoring Officer to prepare reports to the Standards Committee to advise of the investigations carried out and decisions made on complaints against District and Parish Councillors.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 None arising from this report.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 It is a requirement for the Monitoring Officer to report to the Standards Committee with a summary of the investigations undertaken.

7.0 Community Implications

Page 5 of 8

7.1 The Council's Standards Committee plays a vital role in promoting and maintaining the highest standards of conduct by Councillors of South Derbyshire District Council and Parishes in its area.

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 None.

REPORT TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE 9TH NOVEMBER 2017**SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS**

Ref.	Category of Complainant	Subject Member(s)	Summary of Complaint	Outcome
LAC/31	Members of the public (7)	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at a Parish Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaints could be resolved without the need for an investigation. Members Code of Conduct training was provided to the Councillor.
LAC/32	An Elected or Co-opted Member of an Authority	District Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at a Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint was not sufficiently serious to warrant an investigation.
LAC/33	Member of the public	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at two Parish Council meetings and the Council's Planning Committee.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.

LAC/34	Member of the public	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the conduct of the Councillor during the course of a conversation with the member of public.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/35	Member of the public	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/36	An Elected or Co-opted Member of an Authority	District Councillor	The complaint related to the alleged conduct of the Councillor at a Parish Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint was not sufficiently serious to warrant an investigation. The Monitoring Officer met with the Councillor to advise with regard to future conduct.