

REPORT NO. 1

**REPORT TO THE ETHICAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF 10 MARCH 2020**

Status: For Information
Title: Update on Complaints
Originator: Verina Wenham, Chief Officer – Governance & Monitoring Officer

Where from:
Where to next:

1 Purpose Report

1.1 To update the Committee on the current position regarding complaints received in respect of alleged breaches of the Members Code of Conduct.

2 **Recommendations:**

2.1 **That the Ethical Governance Committee notes the current position regarding complaints.**

3 Summary of Reasons for the Recommendations

3.1 To update the Committee on the current position regarding complaints received.

4 Impact on Communities

4.1 The Ethical Governance Committee has a central role in supporting and improving ethical conduct and by ensuring that complaints are dealt with appropriately will increase confidence in local democracy by members of the public.

5 Key Facts

5.1 In March 2019 the Council adopted revised arrangements for dealing with complaints regarding alleged breaches of the Code of conduct by members.

5.2 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the complaints received and being dealt with under the Council's arrangements. A table is attached at Appendix A which gives a case summary. An updated report will be submitted to each meeting of the Ethical Governance Committee.

- 6 Legal Issues
- 6.1 As set out in the report.
- 7 Resource Issues
- 7.1 Complaints that are referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation can be outsourced at the discretion of the Monitoring Officer. There is no specific budget for this, but the costs will be allocated from the Council's contingency budget.
- 8 Equality Implications
- 8.1 There are none as far as this report is concerned.
- 9 Impact on the Organisation
- 9.1 None as far as this report is concerned.
- 10 Community Safety Implications
- 10.1 None as far as this report is concerned.
- 11 Consultation
- 11.1 None as far as this report is concerned.
- 12 Options Considered
- 12.1 To note the current position.
- 13 Background Papers
- 13.1 None.

**Previous report(s): 24 June 2014, 23 June 2015, 28 June 2016, December 2016, 27 June 2017, 26 June 2018, 25 June 2019
29 October**

Information Issued Under Sensitive Issue Procedure: *N*

Ward Members Notified: *N*

Appendix A – Update on complaints 2019/20