
REPORT TO:	STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	7TH DECEMBER 2020	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	MONITORING OFFICER	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ARDIP KAUR EXTENSION 5715 ardip.kaur@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	WILLINGTON	

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Members consider the Independent Investigators reports at **Appendices 3, 4 , 5 and 6**.
- 1.2 That Members consider the conclusions of the Independent Investigator and determine whether Councillor Paul Cullen has breached the Willington Parish Council's Member Code of Conduct.
- 1.3 If Members determine Councillor Cullen has breached the Willington Parish Council's Member Code of Conduct what, if any sanction(s), should be imposed.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To consider the Independent Investigators reports in relation to the allegations that Councillor Paul Cullen breached the Willington Parish Council's Member Code of Conduct. The reports were commissioned by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with the Council's procedure for considering Member Code of Conduct complaints (**Appendix 2**).

3.0 Legal Implications

- 3.1 The Localism Act 2011 sets out legal requirements in relation to the Members Code of Conduct and breaches of that Code. Section 28(6) provides that the Council must have in place arrangements under which allegations can be investigated and arrangements under which decisions on allegations which can be made. In accordance with section 28(7) the Council has appointed two Independent Persons who can attend hearings. They do not vote but their views must be sought and taken into account prior to any decision being made.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The financial implications associated with the complaints included the appointment of the Independent Investigator.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 If the Independent Investigator's reports find there has been breaches of the Members Code of Conduct, the Monitoring Officer must refer the matter to the Standards Sub-Committee.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 The Council's Standards Committee plays a vital role in promoting and maintaining the highest standards of conduct by Councilor's within South Derbyshire District Council.

7.0 Background Papers

7.1 Willington Parish Council Code of Conduct