



F. McArdle
Chief Executive

Civic Offices, Civic Way,
Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 0AH

www.south-derbys.gov.uk

Please ask for: Democratic Services
Phone: (01283) 595722 / 595848
Minicom: (01283) 595849
DX 23912 Swadlincote
Email :
democraticservices@south-derbys.gov.uk

Date: 30 November 2015

Dear Councillor,

Standards Committee

A Meeting of the **Standards Committee** will be held in the **Council Chamber**, on **Tuesday, 08 December 2015 at 18:00**. You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

Chief Executive

To:- **Conservative Group**
Councillors Harrison (Chairman), Stanton (Vice-Chairman), Atkin and Murray.

Labour Group
Councillors Pearson and Mrs Stuart.

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 Meeting held on 24th April 2013.

Standards Committee 24th April 2013 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) of the Local Government Act 1972 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

24th April 2013

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Stanton (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor Bale.

Labour Group

Councillor Mrs. Mead.

Councillor Taylor also attended the Meeting and, with the approval of the Chairman, spoke to Minute No. SC/9.

SC/6. **APOLOGY**

An apology for absence from the Meeting was received from Councillor Pearson (Labour Group).

SC/7. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th June 2012 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the outstanding issues relating to the composition of the Committee would be considered by the newly-appointed Committee following the forthcoming Annual Council Meeting.

SC/8. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Stanton (Vice-Chairman) declared a personal interest in the progress report on the new standards regime (Minute No. SC/9) as the subject Member relating to one of the complaints and Councillor Taylor declared a personal interest on the same item as a member of Woodville Parish Council, which had been involved in two of the complaints.

MATTER DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

SC/9. **NEW STANDARDS REGIME – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received a summary of the complaints investigated by the Monitoring Officer since the introduction of the new standards regime and his actions on each case.

Councillor Taylor queried the processes involved in the consideration of a complaint and the Monitoring Officer responded accordingly.

RESOLVED:-

That the report be noted. [Page 3 of 8](#)

SC/10. **MR. M. ALFLAT (MONITORING OFFICER) AND MR. N. BETTERIDGE
DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER)**

The Chairman referred to the impending departures from the authority of Mr. M. Alflat (Monitoring Officer) and Mr. N. Betteridge (Deputy Monitoring Officer) and thanked both Officers for their service to the Committee.

J.P. HARRISON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 6.05 p.m.

REPORT TO:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	8th DECEMBER 2015	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 Recommendations

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

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 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.

3.0 Detail

3.1 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.

3.2 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.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None arising from this report.

5.0 Corporate Implications

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

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 Councillors of South Derbyshire District Council and Parishes in its area.

7.0 Background Papers

7.1 None.

REPORT TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE 8TH DECEMBER 2015**SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS**

Ref.	Category of Complainant	Subject Member(s)	Summary of Complaint	Outcome
LAC/22	Other Council employee, contractor or agent of the Council	District Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at a Parish Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/23	Members of the public	District Councillor	That the Councillor engaged in sustained activity against the complainant's over a period of months and breached the Code of Conduct.	A hearing of the Standards Sub-Committee determined three breaches of the Members Code of Conduct and imposed sanctions.
LAC/24	An Elected or Co-opted Member of an Authority	Parish Councillors (2)	The complaint related to the role of the Parish Councillors and another organisation, and their respective interests.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/25	Other (House owners)	Parish Councillors (4)	The complaint related to the conduct of the Parish Councillors and a matter relating to their property.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.

LAC/26	Member of the public	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at a Parish Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/27	Other	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the alleged conduct of the Parish Councillor, including matters prior to the Councillor being elected.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/28	Requested anonymity	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the alleged conduct of the Parish Councillor.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/29	An Elected or Co-opted Member of an Authority	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the Councillor's alleged conduct at a Parish Council meeting.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.
LAC/30	Member of the public	Parish Councillor	The complaint related to the alleged conduct of the Parish Councillor.	The Monitoring Officer concluded the complaint did not fall within the remit of the Members Code of Conduct.