

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

9th November 2017

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

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

Labour Group

Councillor Dunn

Independent Persons

Mr P Purnell

SC/1 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor Dr Pearson (Labour Group) and Mr P Smith.

SC/2 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th December 2015 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 formal complaints investigated by the Monitoring Officer and the action taken in each case.

Councillor Atkin whilst referring to queries he had received, enquired whether Parish Liaison meetings could be used as a platform to deliver a presentation to refresh individuals on the complaints procedure.

The Monitoring Officer advised that Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) had conducted training on the subject and any new members appointed to parish councils since the training receive a copy of the Council's Code of Conduct which outlines the complaints procedure.

Members of the Committee discussed that in order to further enhance knowledge of complaint-handling and maintenance of standards, an item could be added to the agenda of the next Parish Liaison meeting.

Councillor Dunn referenced complaint LAC/33 – LAC/35 in Appendix 1 of the report and sought further clarification on the outcome. The Monitoring Officer explained that the complaints related to situations where the criteria of the Code of Conduct did not apply. The Officer further clarified that matters resolved without investigation relate to instances where it is not in the public interest to investigate further, but appropriate training is offered.

RESOLVED:-

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

1.2 Members requested the Members' Code Of Conduct complaints procedure be itemised at a future Parish Liaison meeting.

The Meeting terminated at 6.15pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN