

Local Assessment Statistics

Appendix 1

Period ¹	Number of complaints assessed	Reviews conducted	No further action	Referred for other action	Referred for local investigation	Joint referred for local investigation / no further action	Joint no further action / referred for other action ⁴	Referred to Standards for England for investigation	Final determinations
Total	125²	15³	35³	3³⁺⁴	72⁵	3	1	11⁶	1⁵

(See explanatory notes overleaf)

Nature of complaints	Number of complaints
Register of Members' Interests (failure to declare in full/failure to complete and return within required 28 days of adoption of the Code of Conduct)	2
Failure to treat others with respect	1
Acted in a manner which brought office/the Council into disrepute	4
Bullying / intimidation of Council officers	2
Combined brought office into disrepute / improper use of position / prevention of access to information to which a person is entitled by law	1
General inappropriate behaviour relating to actions at a meeting of the Council's Planning Committee	5
Inappropriate articles appearing in Parish Council newsletter	2
Disclosure of confidential information	2
Inappropriate remarks about another elected Member in local press	1
Various matters relating to inappropriate behaviour during meeting of the Full Council	87
Failure to declare prejudicial interest	5
Combined failure to declare prejudicial interest / failure to treat others with respect / brought Council into disrepute / improper use of position	1
Combined failure to failure treat others with respect / brought Council into disrepute / general inappropriate behaviour during a meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board	10
Vexatious and politically driven complaints against a Member amounting to an abuse of the role and function of the Standards Committee	2

Explanatory notes

- ¹ The statistics detailed cover the period since the introduction of local assessment in May 2008 to 11th May 2010 (the date of preparation of this report).
- ² In 2 cases the Monitoring Officer has used her discretion under Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 to refer a matter back to the Assessment Sub-Committee for reconsideration. These have been counted as 2 complaints for statistical purposes.
- ³ Of the 15 reviews conducted to date 13 have resulted in a decision of no further action, with 2 matters having been referred to the Monitoring Officer for other action.
- ⁴ Other action has been successfully completed by the Monitoring Officer/Subject Members in two cases and is currently to be actioned by the Monitoring Officer on 2 parish-related matters.
- ⁵ The final determination of 1 of the complaints referred for local investigation has taken place which resulted in a 2 month suspension of the Subject Member, such suspension to cease on receipt of a suitable written apology from the Subject Member. Two further (related) complaints did not progress past the consideration meeting stage as the Standards Committee accepted the Investigating Officer's finding of no failure by the Subject Member to follow the Code of Conduct. All remaining investigations have yet to be concluded.
- ⁶ Of the 11 cases referred to Standards for England for investigation all have been accepted for investigation. In 5 cases the investigations have been completed and in each case it was the Ethical Standards Officer's finding that there was no failure on the part of the Subject Member to follow the Code of Conduct. In the remaining 6 cases Standards for England has stopped its investigation and directed the Monitoring Officer to take other action, namely to ensure that the allegations are included in associated ongoing local investigations.