

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 | 130² | 15³ | 37³ | 4³⁺⁴ | 74⁵ | 3 | 1 | 11⁶ | 1⁵ |

(See explanatory notes overleaf)

| Nature of complaints | Number of complaints |
|--|----------------------|
| Register of Members' Interests: failure to declare interests / failure to complete and return interests form within required 28 days of adoption of the Code of Conduct / false information included in interests form | 10 |
| Failure to treat others with respect | 1 |
| Acted in a manner which brought office/the Council into disrepute / use of position for personal gain | 6 |
| 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 |
| 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 14th September 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. For statistical purposes these have been recorded as the original 2 complaints only.
- 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 is currently being undertaken for 2 (linked) parish councillor matters and a further district councillor matter (see further details under paragraph 3.5 of main report).
- 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 Member concerned. 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 of those cases 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 (linked) cases Standards for England stopped its investigation and referred the complaints back to the Monitoring Officer with a direction that these be investigated locally as part of an ongoing investigation into similar complaints.