



## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 June 2024

**Subject Heading:**

**COUNCILLOR COMPLAINTS –  
ANNUAL UPDATE**

**SLT Lead:**

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**Policy context:**

A well run Council that delivers for People and Place.

**Financial summary:**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

People - Things that matter for residents

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place. X

**SUMMARY**

1. This report presents a summary of the number and type of complaints received by the Monitoring Officer between 13 December 2022 and 31 March 2024. It also details the progress and / or resolution of the same.
2. Governance Committee has Member Conduct within its remit and is obliged to “to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by the members.”

3. This report is also intended to give some reassurance to Governance Committee that Member complaints are considered appropriately by the Monitoring Officer.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

4. Governance Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

## **REPORT DETAIL**

5. Between the period of 13 December 2022 to 31 March 2024 the Monitoring Officer received 16 formal complaints. Of these:
  - a. 8 were instigated by residents. 8 were instigated by Cllrs.
  - b. Only 1 resident submitted more than 1 complaint. 3 Cllrs submitted more than 1 complaint.
  - c. One Cllr received 6 complaints. Two Cllrs received 2 each.
  - d. Eight of the complaints concerned social media postings. Three concerned actions within Council meetings.
6. A table is attached showing more detail regarding each complaint, although anonymised.
7. Over that same period the Monitoring Officer received upwards of 20 additional queries concerning the behaviour of members, albeit stopping short of formal complaints. The majority of these were “in-house” being received from councillors or members of staff. Quite a number concerned inappropriate language often directed towards staff.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Equalities implications and Risks**

8. None.

### **Legal implications and Risks**

9. None.

**Financial implications and risks:**

10. There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report.

**Human Resources implications and risks:**

11. The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

**Environmental and climate change implications and risks**

12. None.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.