

Appendix 2: Code of Conduct Complaints Activity

1 June 2023 – 30 August 2023

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
COM 393 COM 397	5-April-22 19-April-22	Town	Officer	That the Subject Member has, in emails and on social media, been disrespectful towards fellow Councillors and an Officer of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Bullying • Failing to follow procedure / policy (member officer protocol) 	6-June-22	Standards Hearing scheduled Sept 2023.
FS-Case-479253074	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member	Members have given false statements during a Parish Council Meeting. Members have approved a contract on behalf of a landowner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Championing the needs of residents • Dealing with enquiries fairly, appropriately, and impartially. • Not allowing pressures to deter them from pursuing the interests of the Council or the good governance of the Council in a proper manner • Exercise independent judgement • Be accountable for decisions • Contribute to making the decision process as open and transparent as possible. • Behave in accordance to legal obligations and that of the Council. • Treat people with respect. • Failure to disclose interests 		Ongoing To be dealt with as a collective. The opinion of an independent person shall be sought.
FS-Case-479484178	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-480006325	18/01/2023	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-479665269	18-Jan-23	Parish	Public				
FS-Case-480451746	19-Jan-23	Parish	Public				
FS-Case-482384231	30-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
Com 414	8-Feb-23	Parish	Member				

FS-Case-500269838	23-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-500989086	27-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-501015260	27-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-527404494	28-Jun-23	Parish	Public				
Com 415	15-Mar-23	Parish	Officer	Accusations of bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Bullying and Harassment • Value colleagues 	17/05/2023	Referred for investigation
FS-Case-505549532	05-April-23	County	Officer	The complaint raises concern about the subject member's alleged ill treatment of staff and bullying and harassment of Council Officers. The complaint also details concerns about your alleged use of social media and the Press to unfairly criticise officers and make inaccurate and inflammatory statements about the Council, Officers of the Council and the Council's Area Action Partnerships. Additionally, the complaint includes the alleged failure to adhere to the Member-Officer Relations Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to act in accordance with Member-Officer Relations Protocol • Respect • Bullying 		Ongoing, to be dealt with in conjunction with FS-Case-511445732. This Complaint is being overseen by the Deputy Monitoring Officer.

FS-Case-511445732	28-Apr-23	County	Officer	The complaint relates to comments made by the two Subject Members in an Article published in the Northern Echo. The Subject Members criticised the Council and Council Officers, with the article stating the Subject Members “have launched a scathing attack on non-elected officers at Durham County Council”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act in accordance with Member Officer Relations Protocol • Respect • Acting in accordance with legal obligations 		Ongoing, to be dealt with in conjunction with FS-Case-505549532. This Complaint is being overseen by the Deputy Monitoring Officer.
FS-Case-505646770	06-April-23	Town	Officer	The subject member has incorrectly handled a staffing issue relating to absence. The complainant has shown a lack of respect for Officers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Seeking to confer an advantage or disadvantage • Bullying 	23.06.2023	Completed- NFA
COM 418	24-Apr-23	County	Public	The complaint alleges that the subject member has been using his position as a Councillor to interfere with a member of the public’s business. The subject member is being accused of using his position as a Councillor to bully and harass a member of the public and their partner. The Subject Member video called the member of the public to intimidate her into speaking to her husband about and ongoing conflict between him and the subject member.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Acting in accordance with legal obligations • Bullying and Harassment • Seeking to confer an advantage/disadvantage. 	27/073034	Referred for Standards Committee Hearing
FS-Case-511652546	29-Apr-23	Parish	Cllr	Allegations that the Subject Members carried out works on a public pathway without authority and against advice of DCC. A physical altercation is alleged to have taken place between one Subject Member and the Complainant.	- All elements of the Code of Conduct		Ongoing, to be dealt with under a collective decision
FS-Case-511798693	30-Apr-23	Parish	Cllr	Counter-complaint for FS-Case-511652546 concerning bullying and harassment.			

FS-Case-512967377	04-May-23	County	Cllr	The complaint alleges that the subject member shared information prior to it being published in the public domain, which was against the express instruction of the HoLDS.	- Confidentiality	26/06/2023	Completed - Local Resolution
COM 419	04-May-23	Town	Public	An advertisement was placed in a Town Council newspaper which the complainant believes to have political affiliation, which is contrary to requirements under the Local Government Act 1986.	- Acting in accordance with legal obligations	15/06/2023	Completed – No Further Action
COM 420	28-Apr-23	Town	Town Council Staff	Accusations of bullying	- Bullying - Respect - Conferring an advantage or disadvantage		Ongoing
FS-Case-514139036	09-May-23	County	Cllr	The Subject Member has made comments of a discriminatory nature on a Facebook group.	- Respect - Bringing the Role of Member or Local Authority into disrepute. - Acting in accordance with legal obligations	25/05/2023	Referred to a Standards Hearing.
Com 421	10-May-23	Parish	Clerk on behalf of the PC	The Subject Member has disclosed a potential data breach as a non-member of the Parish Council manages his email account for him.	- Disclosing Confidential Information - Bullying and harassment - Respect -		Ongoing
COM 422	22-May-23	Parish	Cllr	The Subject Member is alleged to have been spreading malicious rumours	- Respect - Value Colleagues and staff - Bullying and Harassment - Bringing the role of Member into disrepute		Ongoing

FS-Case-533145308	12-Jun-23	County	Public	The Subject Member has allegedly recorded a member of the public without their consent and was disrespectful.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect 		Completed – No further Action
FS-Case-529322214	05-Jul-23	County	Public	The Subject Member has made disrespectful comments aimed towards another Member on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect - Value colleagues - Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute 		Ongoing
FS-Case-532722081	19-Jul-23	County	Public	<p>The Subject Members are allegedly failing to engage with the Complainant regarding a public safety issue within a proposal for the Licensing Committee.</p> <p>The complainant alleges that the Subject Members are avoiding meeting with him and are now ignoring his correspondance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accountability - Listening to the interests of all parties 		Ongoing
FS-Case-532826751	19-Jul-23	County	Member	The Subject Member has emailed a photo of the complainant to all County Council Members during a Full Council Meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valuing colleagues and staff - Respect 		Ongoing
FS-Case-533097871	19-Jul-23	Parish	Public	The Subject Member has allegedly shared emails with a former Parish Council after her resignation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act in accordance with legal obligations - Not disclose information given to them in confidence 		Ongoing
FS-Case-533399993	18-Jul-23	Parish	Public	<p>The Subject Member is allegedly engaging in the ongoing harassment of the Complainant which has been led by a member of the public.</p> <p>The subject member has allegedly lied when applying to join a Facebook group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Openness - Listen to the interests of all parties. - Bullying - Harassment 		Rejected – subject of an investigation or other action at another regulatory auth in the last 3 years.

Fs-Case-533236801	20-Jul-23	Parish	Public	<p>The Subject member has allegedly used her position as a Councillor to have DCC Officer visit the Complainant's address about a noise complaint.</p> <p>Additionally, the Subject Member has allegedly made a post on Facebook accusing the complainant's son of littering, which led to many comments about her son being made.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fairness and impartiality - objectivity - act in accordance with Council Procedures 		Ongoing
COM 423	01-Aug-23	Parish	Member	<p>This complaint is linked to COM 422 as the Subject Member is alleged to have been spreading malicious rumours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect - Value Colleagues and staff - Bullying and Harassment - Bringing the role of Member into disrepute 		Ongoing
COM 424	02-Aug-2023	County	Public	<p>The Subject Member has made comment about the value of a contract between a company and the Council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Value Colleagues and Staff - Respect - Behave in accordance with legal obligations - Confidentiality. 		Ongoing
FS-Case-534468993	26-Jul-23	Parish	Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	Rejected – Complaint about Council not Members
COM 425	07-Aug-23	Parish	Public	<p>The Subject Members are accused of speaking disrespectfully towards other Members of the Parish Council and the Complainant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Value Colleagues and staff - Respect - Bullying and Harassment 		Ongoing

FS-Case-539237583	14-Aug-23	Parish	Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	Withdrawn – Complainant mistaken
FS-Case-539664142	16-Aug-23	County	Officer	The Subject Member is accused of distributing information in an attempt to discredit the Complainant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accountable for decisions and cooperate when scrutinised - Behave in accordance with legal obligations - Value Colleagues and staff - Respect - Not disclose information given to them in confidence - Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute 		Ongoing

