

## Standards Committee

6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Code of Conduct Update



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### Report of Helen Bradley, Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

#### Electoral division(s) affected:

None

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Standards Committee with an update on complaints received by Durham County Council under the Code of Conduct for Members since the Committee's last meeting on 7 June 2024.

#### Executive summary

- 2 The report provides an update on the complaints of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct currently being assessed and those which have been completed. Complaints are considered in accordance with the Council's Procedure for Member Code of Conduct Complaints.

#### Recommendation

- 3 The Standards Committee is asked to:
  - a) Note the contents of the report.

## Background

- 4 The Council has a duty under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members and co-opted members and to adopt a Code of Conduct that is consistent with the Nolan Principles addressing the conduct that is expected of members when they are acting in their official capacity as a councillor and/or representative of the Council.
- 5 The Council must also have in place arrangements to consider allegations about breaches of the Codes of Conduct for Members by the Council's own members and of members of the town and parish councils for which the Council is the principal authority.
- 6 Expected standards of behaviour should also be embedded through effective member induction and ongoing training.
- 7 Members' failure to comply with the Code can be an issue of concern to local communities and result in a perception of poor governance. This could affect the reputation of the Council. The Council therefore maintains an open and transparent process for making complaints against members. Information and guidance on the process for making such complaints is clearly signposted and accessible on the Council's website.
- 8 These arrangements include provision for the Monitoring Officer to provide local solutions to resolve complaints without formal investigations.
- 9 The responsibility for standards activity, including the monitoring of the operation of the Code, falls within the jurisdiction of the Standards Committee. Regular oversight of complaints received enables the Standards Committee to identify particular trends or issues which might need further consideration by the Committee and/or wider training needs.
- 10 Details of complaints activity during the period between 21 May and 16 August 2024 is set out in Appendix 2. An analysis of those matters is set out below.

## **Complaints received since 21 May 2024**

### **How many complaints were received?**

- 11 There have been 20 formal complaints received between 21 May 2024 and 16 August 2024, of which:
- 5 are subject of a final Decision Notice;
  - 18 are ongoing matters;
  - 3 complaints were made about the same incident and therefore dealt with under one decision notice;
  - 3 have been rejected.

### **Who were the Complaints from?**

- 12 Of the 20 formal complaints received during the last period:
- 12 were from members of the public; and
  - 12 were from a member against another member; and
  - 1 was from an Officer.

### **Who were the Complaints about?**

- 13 Of the 20 formal complaints received during the last period:
- 18 were about Town or Parish Councillors; and
  - 4 were about County Councillors; and
  - 3 was about a Dual Hatted Member

### **Which provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct were alleged to have been breached?**

- 14 Of the 20 formal complaints received during the last period, the principal provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct engaged were:
- Respect: 15
  - All aspects of the Code were engaged: 4

### **What were the outcomes?**

- 15 Of the 5 formal complaints received during the last period which have been subject to final Decision Notices:
- 16 No further action was taken in relation to all 5 matters of the complaints that have not progressed or have been rejected:
- Three Complaints were rejected as the Subject Member was not deemed to be acting in their capacity as a Councillor.
  - One complaint was rejected as the complaint referred to the same incident which had recently been dealt with by way of a decision notice.
- 17 In respect of ongoing complaints, it would not be appropriate to comment on matters that are currently being assessed or investigated but Decision Notices will be available for inspection once the decision has been communicated to the relevant Subject Member and Complainant.

### **Complaints received prior to 21 May 2024**

- 18 During the last period, there has been ongoing activity relating to a further 10 complaints, which were received prior to 21 May but remained ongoing at that date. Details of these also appear in Appendix 2. An analysis of those matters is set out below.
- 19 Of the 8 complaints which remained active at the date of the last meeting of the Standards Committee on 7 June 2024:
- 2 are now the subject of final Decision Notices; and
  - 6 remain ongoing.

### **Who were the Complaints from?**

- 20 Of the 8 complaints which remained active at the date of the last meeting of the Standards Committee on 7 June 2024:
- 5 were from members of the public;
  - 2 were from a member against another member; and
  - 1 was from a Parish Council Clerk.

### **Who were the Complaints about?**

- 21 Of the 8 complaints which remained active at the date of the last meeting of the Standards Committee on 7 June 2024:
- 6 were about Town or Parish Councillors; and

- 2 were about County Councillors.

**Which provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct were alleged to have been breached?**

22 The principal provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct engaged were:

- Respect: 8

**What were the outcomes?**

23 Of the 2 complaints received prior to 7 June 2024, which have been subject of a final Decision Notice during the last period:

- No further action was taken in relation to both matters;

**Investigations**

24 In addition to the 8 outstanding complaints from the previous quarter, there are 2 ongoing investigations.

**Who were the Complaints from?**

25 1 investigation relates to complaints from Members and the Public.

26 1 investigation relates to complaints from Members and Officers.

**Who were the Complaints about?**

27 Parish Councillors are the subject of 1 investigation;

28 A County Councillor is the subject of the other.

**Which provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct were alleged to have been breached?**

29 The principal provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct engaged were:

- Respect: 1
- All aspects of the code: 1

**What were the outcomes?**

30 Both investigations remain ongoing

**Why have some complaints taken longer to resolve?**

31 Complaints have taken longer due to staffing levels and workload as well as the complexity of the matters raised.

## **Conclusion**

32 This report provides a summary of the Code of Conduct Complaints handled over the last 3 months and is intended to provide an overview of complaints handling to assist the Standards Committee to fulfil their role in promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct.

## **Background papers**

- Code of Conduct for Councillors.
- Procedure for Member Code of Conduct Complaints.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The Council has a duty under s.27 of the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members and to adopt a Code of Conduct that is consistent with the Nolan Principles. It must also have in place arrangements to consider allegations about breaches of the Code of Conduct for Members by the Council's own members and by members of parish/town councils for which the Council is the principal authority.

### **Finance**

There are no financial implications.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

There are no equality and diversity implications arising out of the report.

### **Climate Change**

There are no climate change implications arising out of the report.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

There are no Crime and Disorder implications arising out of the report.

### **Staffing**

There are no staffing implications arising out of this report other than those mentioned in paragraph 26 above.

### **Accommodation**

There are no accommodation implications.

### **Risk**

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
Poor governance and decision-making outcomes.	High – legal challenges and/or a complaint of maladministration could be made.	Low – Members and key staff are appropriately trained and have a good understanding of	Adherence with the Code, Constitution, and Procedures.

Reputational damage.	The Council could be ordered to pay compensation and/or suffer reputational damage.	the Code requirements. This is a continuous requirement.	Staff and Member training.
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**Procurement**

There are no procurement implications



## Appendix 2: Code of Conduct Complaints Activity

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**24 February 2024 – 21 July 2024**

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 Member	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"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying</li> <li>- Failing to follow procedure / policy (member officer protocol)</li> </ul>	28-Sep-23	Standards Committee Hearing Panel  Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Censure - Completed</li> <li>• Training on Member/ Officer relations – Completed</li> </ul>
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"> <li>- All aspects of the Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	25-Oct-23	Dealt with under a collective decision notice 13 complaints in total in which 4 were NFA.  Complaints; FS-Case-479253074, FS-Case-479484178, FS-Case-479665269, FS-Case-480006325, FS-Case-480451746, FS-Case-482384231, COM 414, FS-Case-511652546 and FS-Case-527404494 Referred for Investigation.
FS-Case-479484178	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-480006325	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-479665269	18-Jan-23	Parish	Public				

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
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-527404494	28-Jun-23	Parish	Public				
FS-Case-511652546	29-Apr-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-485616401	09-Feb-23	County	Officer	The complainant alleges that the Subject Member posted confidential information on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Disclosing Confidential Information</li> <li>- Bringing the Role of Member or Local Authority into disrepute.</li> </ul>	16-Mar-23	Local Resolution – Code of Conduct training focussing on the confidentiality requirement. – Member has declined training.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
COM 415	15-Mar-23	Parish	Officer	Accusations of bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Value colleagues</li> </ul>	17-May-23	No further action due to Cllrs resigning.
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"> <li>- Failure to act in accordance with Member-Officer Relations Protocol</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying</li> </ul>	12-Oct-23	Referred for Investigation.
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"> <li>- Act in accordance with Member Officer Relations Protocol</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Acting in accordance with legal obligations</li> </ul>	12-Oct-23	Linked to FS-Case-505549532.  One Member Referred for Investigation and No Further Action in respect of the other Member.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
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"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Acting in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Seeking to confer an advantage/disadvantage.</li> </ul>	27-July-23	Standards Committee Hearing Panel  Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Censure - Completed</li> <li>• Code of Conduct training into the role and remit of a Parish &amp; Town Councillor - Member has declined to attend training.</li> <li>• Written apology – Member has apologised but not provided a copy to the Monitoring Officer as this was not a requirement of the hearing panel.</li> </ul>
COM 420	28-Apr-23	Town	Officer	Accusations of bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bullying</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Conferring an advantage or disadvantage</li> </ul>	20-Oct-23	Completed – Local Resolution Mediation - to be arranged.
FS-Case-514139036	09-May-23	County	Member	The Subject Member has made comments of a discriminatory nature on a Facebook group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bringing the Role of Member or Local Authority into disrepute.</li> <li>- Acting in accordance with legal obligations</li> </ul>	25-May-23	Standards Committee Hearing Panel.  Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Censure - Completed</li> <li>• Training on Member/ Officer</li> </ul>

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
							relations – Completed
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Disclosing Confidential Information</li> <li>- Bullying and harassment</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>		Completed – local resolution
COM 422	22-May-23	Parish	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have been spreading malicious rumours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Value Colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Bringing the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	18.1.2024	No Further Action following resignation of Member.
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"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Value colleagues</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute</li> </ul>	2-Apr-24	Ongoing.
COM 423	01-Aug-23	Parish	Member	This complaint is linked to COM 422 as the Subject Member is alleged to have been spreading malicious rumours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Value Colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Bringing the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	18-Jan-24	No Further Action following resignation of Member.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
COM 425	07-Aug-23	Parish	Public	The Subject Members are accused of speaking disrespectfully towards other Members of the Parish Council and the Complainant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value Colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> </ul>	18-Jan-24	No Further Action following resignations of Members.
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"> <li>- Accountable for decisions and cooperate when scrutinised</li> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Value Colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not disclose information given to them in confidence</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-544614411	05-Sep-23	Town	Public	The Subject Members are alleged to have accepted a gift contrary to the Gifts and Hospitality Policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not allowing pressures to deter them from pursuing the interests of the Council</li> <li>- Exercise independent judgment and not compromise their position</li> </ul>	7-Nov-23	Local Resolution Training – Training agreed to be arranged once a revised Gifts and Hospitality Policy has been adopted by the Town Council.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behave in accordance with all legal obligations, alongside any requirements contained within the Council's policies</li> </ul>		
FS-Case-546254817	11-Sep-23	County	Officer	The Subject Member is alleged to have failed to treat Officers with respect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Act in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Value Colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-551594852	03-Oct-23	Town	Public	The Subject Member is accused of not being independent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Listen to the interests of all parties</li> </ul>		Completed – Not progressed due to a failure to provide further info upon request.
FS-Case-556862472	24-Oct-23	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have spoken to the Complainant disrespectfully at a site meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deal with representations or enquiries fairly, appropriately and impartially</li> </ul>	17-Jan-24	Completed. No Further Action

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Listen to the interests of all parties</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>		
FS-Case-561159527	10-Nov-23	County	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have brought the reputation of the Council into disrepute by spreading false information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of the member/authority into disrepute</li> <li>- To hold the local authority and fellow Members to account</li> </ul>		Completed. No Further Action
FS-Case-562390041	15-Nov-23	Parish	Public	The complainant alleges that the Subject Member disclosed personal information about them at a Parish Council meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not disclose information given to them in confidence.</li> </ul>	5-Jul-24	Completed - NFA
FS-Case-562494788	16-Nov-23	Parish	Member	The complainant alleges that the Subject Member has breached the respect provision of the Code of Conduct following a post on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>	23-Jan-24	Completed. Local Resolution – written apology - Completed.



Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-562593888	16-Nov-23	Parish	Officer	The complainant alleges that the Subject Members have failed to work constructively with them and have harassed them by acting in an intimidating way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value colleagues and staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>	19-Dec-23	Completed. No Further Action.
FS-Case-563802819	21-Nov-23	Town	Public	The Subject Member is accused of making defamatory statements on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>	7-Mar-24	Completed – local Resolution
FS-Case-564885887	26-Nov-23	Town	Member	The Subject Member is to have alleged to have breached GDPR protocols by posting personal details of a former officer of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not disclose info given to them in confidence</li> </ul>	12-Dec-23	Completed. No Further Action.
FS-Case-56611405	3-Dec-23	County	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have acted in her own interests by parking her car on the highway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Champion the needs of residents.</li> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	17-Jan-2024	Completed. No Further Action.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-567823510	7-Dec-23	Parish	Public	One Subject Member is alleged to have spoken to the Complainant disrespectfully during a Parish Council meeting and the other Subject Member is alleged to have not intervened as Chair during the alleged incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect.</li> </ul>	29-Feb-24	Completed – No Further Action
FS-Case-568052101	8-Dec-23	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have not responded to the Complainant in a timely manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Listen to the interests of all parties</li> <li>- Be accountable for decisions and cooperate when scrutinised internally and externally incl by local residents</li> </ul>	23-Nov-23	Completed. No Further Action.
FS-Case-568081299	8-Dec-23	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is accused of a series of misleading and inaccurate information regarding the Parish Council's Annual Governance and Accountability Return.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be accountable for decisions and cooperate when scrutinised internally and externally incl by local residents</li> <li>- Open and Transparent</li> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> </ul>		Completed. Local Resolution in relation to training on the AGAR. – Training has been arranged by the Parish Council in March for all Members.

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value Colleagues and Staff</li> </ul>		
FS-Case-570323203	18-Dec-23	County	Public	The Subject Member is accused of informing residents of confidential information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not disclose info given to them in confidence</li> </ul>		Completed. Complainant did not proceed with complaint.
COM 426	8-Jan-24	Parish	Anonymous	The Subject Member is accused of posting a racial post on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>	08-Jan-24	Completed. Complaint not proceeded with due to it being anonymous and no way of obtaining further info.
FS-Case-577721473	15-Jan-24	Parish	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have bullied the Clerk during a Parish Council meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Value colleagues &amp; Staff</li> <li>- Bullying &amp; Harassment</li> </ul>		Ongoing – Linked to FS-Case-578378695

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-578210543	17-Jan-24	Town	Public	Historical complaints of the Town Council.	- N/A	30-Jan-24	Rejected - Habitual and vexatious complainant.
FS-Case-578378695	17-Jan-24	Parish	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have bullied the Clerk during a Parish Council meeting.	- Respect - Value colleagues & Staff - Bullying & Harassment		Ongoing – Linked to FS-Case-577721473
FS-Case-585268567	08-Feb-24	Parish	Member	Subject Members are accused of bullying and harassment of a member of the public.	- Respect - Value colleagues & Staff - Bullying & Harassment		Rejected
FS-Case-592685081	05-Mar-24	Town	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have spoken rudely to a resident on Social Media	- Respect - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute	08-Mar-24	Completed – No Further Action
FS-Case-592382997	04-Mar-24	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have harassed the Complainant	- Bullying and Harassment	18-Mar-24	Rejected - anonymous Complaint insufficient information provided

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-592404143	04-Mar-24	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have falsely claimed to have been a member of a housing association, misrepresented themselves, disseminated false information and falsely claimed to have planning permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not disclose information given in confidence</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	17-Apr-24	Completed – No Further Action
FS-Case-593665964	08-Mar-24	County	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have reacted inappropriately to a social media post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-600251725	27-Mar-24	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have behaved inappropriately at a PACT meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Listen to the interests of all parties</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Value Colleagues and Staff</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Complete – No further action

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FS-Case-602175314	03-Apr-24	County	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have acted as a member of the public and not declared themselves as a County Councillor during a meeting about the Highways Committee, which the Complainant alleges the Subject Member is a member of	- N/A		Rejected – insufficient information provided
FS-Case-602260733	04-Apr-24	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have restricted a member of the public's access to a social media group, in turn bullying the member of the public.	- Bullying and Harassment		Rejected – insufficient information provided
FS-Case-604646607	10-Apr-24	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have been disrespectful during a public meeting to a member of the public	- Respect	16-May-24	Completed – no further action
FS-Case-604844404	11-Apr-24	County	Member	The Subject Member is accused of posting a racial post on social media.	- Respect - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute	01-May-24	Completed – local resolution, equality and diversity training to be complete
FS-Case-604959765	11-Apr-24	County	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have misled the public	- Deal with representations fairly - Be accountable for decisions - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute		Rejected

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
COM 427	10-Apr-24	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is accused of being unwilling to cooperate when scrutinised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behave in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying or Harassment</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Complete – No further action
FS-Case-606189724	16-Apr-24	County	Public	The Subject Member is accused of responding aggressively to a complaint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Complete – No further action
FS-Case-610184010	29-Apr-24	Town	Public	The Subject Member is accused of creating an inappropriate social media post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>		Rejected – Complaint made about social media posts made in 2023
FS-Case-609295909	26-Apr-24	Town	Public	The Subject Members are accused of pretending to be an employee of a housing association and blocking free speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>		Rejected – Dealt with by earlier Decision Notice and
FS-Case-611093168	02-May-24	Parish	Clerk	The Subject Member is alleged to have made statements about the Complainant which are damaging to their reputation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>		Ongoing - To be consider with another complaint

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-612659798	08-May-24	Town	Member	The Subject Member is accused of posting a racial post on social media.	- N/A		Rejected – the complaint related to an incident dated 16.08.2023
FS-Case-612868811	08-May-24	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have broken GDPR regulations	- Respect - Not disclose information given in confidence		Ongoing
FS-Case-613015846	09-May-24	County	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have contributed to political publication and provided false information	- Value Colleagues - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute		Ongoing
FS-Case-616124628	20-May-24	Town	Public	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	- Respect - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute		Ongoing
FS-Case-616176637	21-May-24	Town	Member	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	- Respect - Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute		Ongoing



Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-616218761	21-May-24	Town	Member	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-616317651	21-May-24	Parish	Public	The Subject Members are accused of not treating a member of the public fairly or with respect and not handling the member of the public's complaint fairly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deal with representations or enquiries fairly, appropriately and impartially</li> <li>- Listen to the interests of all parties</li> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	07/07/2024	Complete – No further action
FS-Case-616440265	21-May-24	Town	Member	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-616613801	22-May-24	Town	Member	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-617291618	24-May-24	Town	Public	The Complainant alleges that the Subject Member is against the development of HMOs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	4-Jul-24	Complete – No further action
FS-Case-617495887	25-May-24	Parish	Member	The Subject Member is alleged to have behaved inappropriately in a public place whilst conducting council business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-620170558	04-Jun-24	Town	Public	N/A	N/A		Rejected – the Subject Member was not acting in their capacity
FS-Case-621276856	08-Jun-24	Parish	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to have behaved inappropriately in a public place whilst conducting council business	N/A		Officer's are considering whether it is appropriate to reject this complaint
FS-Case-623217034	16-Jun-24	Parish	Member	The Subject Member behaved inappropriately during a council meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> </ul>	17-Jul-24	Complete – No further action
FS-Case-615367186	17-May-24	Parish	Member	The Complainant states the Subject Member was recording a parish council meeting. They allege she left her phone recording when she was asked to leave the meeting as she had	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acting in accordance with legal obligations</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	19-Jul-24	Complete – No further action

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
				declared an interest in an agenda item			
FS-Case-623519857	17-Jun-24	County	Public	The Monitoring Officer received a complaint following comments the Subject Member made to the local press.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>	03-Jul-24	Complete – No further action
FS-Case-624080427	19-Jun-24	Parish	Public	<p>This complaint is in relation to a complaint which is already under investigation.</p> <p>The Complainant alleges that the Subject Member has posted inappropriate messages on social media. There are two elements of this complaint.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> </ul>		Ongoing - first part of the complaint has been rejected, the second will be considered. The independent person has been notified.
FS-Case-624352750	20-Jun-24	Parish	Officer	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member reacted aggressively to dog walkers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-630125833	11-Jul-24	Town	Member	The Subject is accused of not behaving appropriately during a public meeting	-		Rejected as dealt with under another DN

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-629842314	10-Jul-24	Town	Public	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member reacted aggressively to dog walkers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Respect</li> <li>- Bullying and Harassment</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-630753228	15-Jul-24	Parish	Member	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member should not have read out a message during a parish council meeting, as the message caused offence to the complainant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value Colleagues and Staff</li> <li>- Respect</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-631861597	18-Jul-24	County	Public	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member has abused his position by manipulating officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Abide by legal obligations</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-633486446	25-Jul-24	Parish	Member	The Complainant alleges the Subject Members have failed to register a pecuniary interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribute to the authority's open and transparent decision making process</li> <li>- Not allowing pressures to deter them from pursuing the interests of the Council</li> <li>-</li> </ul>		Ongoing

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
FS-Case-634584948	29-Jul-24	County	Public	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member discovered confidential information pertaining to the Complainant's family. The Complainant considers this to be a breach of data protection laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not disclose information given to them in confidence</li> <li>- Not to bring the role of Member into disrepute</li> </ul>		Ongoing
FS-Case-636483198	06-Aug-24	Parish	Member	The Complainants allege they have received a vexatious cease and desist order from the Subject Members in relation to a community space.	-		Additional information from the Complainant has been requested.
FS-Case-636210703	08-Aug-24	Town	Member	The Subject Member has allegedly shared a racist post on social media.	-		Ongoing - The Complainant has requested to make their complaint anonymously. They have been asked to provide more information as to why this should be considered, and for more information about how they consider the Subject Member to be acting in their capacity.
FS-Case-638340581	13-Aug-24	Parish	Public	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member is sending emails to a fellow Parish Councillor which amounts to harassment.	-		Ongoing
FS-Case-639113710	16-Aug-24	County	Public	The Complainant alleges the Subject Member did not afford the Complainant the opportunity to discuss a planning matter before submitting the application	-		Ongoing