

WIRRAL COUNCIL

STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

3 July 2014

SUBJECT:	SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS MADE UNDER THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT
WARD AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	MONITORING OFFICER
KEY DECISION?	NO

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides a summary of standards complaints made under the Members' Code of Conduct between 1 April 2013 and 25 June 2014.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council is required to deal with complaints made against Members under its approved Ethical Framework.

2.2 In order to assist with the effective administration of standards complaints, the Committee, as part of its monitoring role, is invited to consider the nature and handling of complaints received pursuant to the Members' Code of Conduct.

2.3 Appendix 1 sets out a summary of the complaints received and their status. The Ethical Framework requires complaints to be dealt with confidentiality (unless permitted by the Protocol) and therefore it is not possible to provide extensive details in respect of each complaint.

2.4 Between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 a total of 6 complaints have been made.

Period	Complainant		Referred for Investigation	Outcome		
	Member	Public		Upheld	Partially Upheld	Not Upheld
01/04/2014 to 31/03/2014	2	4	2	0	0	6
01/04/2014 To 25/06/2014	2	4	1	n/a	n/a	n/a

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 The administration of standards complaints should be dealt with as efficiently as possible to ensure matters are concluded quickly and closure of issues secured for both complaint and the subject member(s) involved.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 The process for the administration of standards complaints is undertaken in accordance with the Protocol for Dealing with Member Complaints which was approved by the Committee and Council.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

5.1 There are no implications for Voluntary, Community and Faith groups arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

6.1 There are not financial implications arising from this report save that where an external investigator is appointed, additional costs will be incurred. Such costs will vary depending upon the nature of the complaint and the time taken to undertake and complete the investigation.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The legal implications are set out within this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific discrimination issues arising from this report.

9.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no carbon reduction implications in this report.

10.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no planning and community safety implications in this report.

11.0 RECOMMENDATION

11.1 That the Committee notes the summary of standards complaints set out at Appendix 1 to this report.

12.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

12.1 The Standards Committee requested that an updated summary of standards complaints be provided periodically.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Summary of Standards Complaints

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None