

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

6 March 2020

Complaints Update**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Committee regarding ethical framework complaint activity.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A standing report regarding complaint activity under the ethical framework is brought to each meeting of the Standards Committee.

3.0 NEW COMPLAINTS

- 3.1 There have been three new complaints received since the last Complaints Update report to the Committee.

NYCC/SC/73

The complaint arose in the context of communications between the Complainant and the Subject Member regarding concerns the Complainant had raised with the County Council's Highways directorate and subsequently with the Subject Member regarding the impact of certain road closures and diversions and the manner of their implementation. The complaint was assessed by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Independent Persons for Standards when it was concluded that no action should be taken in relation to the complaint.

NYCC/SC/74 & 75

Two complaints against a county councillor by different complainants re the same matter have been intimated to the Monitoring Officer. An oral update will be given to the Committee.

4.0 STATISTICS

- 4.1 For the year 1 April 2019 to date, the Council has received seven formal standards complaints and two intimated complaints (see above).
- 4.2 Four of the formal complaints were in relation to same subject Member and matter when it was concluded that the complaints should be dealt with by local settlement under informal resolution: namely that the subject Member should issue a formal apology, undergo suitable diversity training as directed by the Monitoring Officer and that the assessment record should be published on the Council website. No action was required to be taken in relation to the other formal complaints.
- 4.3 Members will be kept informed of developments.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 That the Committee notes the current position on complaints received.

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) and Monitoring Officer

Background Documents:

None

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

26 February 2020