



Standards Committee

12 March 2019

Cases and Work Update 2019 -2020

Report of the Monitoring Officer

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides information on the number of complaints received since Standards Committee 26th November 2018. This report will also update members on the revisions to the Code of Conduct and Social Media Guidance. It also aims to help in identifying areas where training or education may assist Councillors' understanding of the regime's requirements.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the report be noted.

3. Details

- 3.1 A summary of the complaints received since the implementation of the existing Standards regime (June 2012) are set out in the table at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Since the implementation of the existing standards regime (from the 1 July 2012), there have been a total of 60 cases (to include cases mentioned herein). Details of these cases have been periodically reported to the Committee, with the last report in November 2018.
- 3.3 Since the date of the last meeting six complaints have been received.
- 3.4 The table at **Appendix A** indicates the date of complaint, if it related to a Borough, Parish or Town Councillor, if the complaint was made by another Borough, Parish or Town Councillor and what action was taken to address the complaint. Historical information is in shaded boxes, and fresh information is in white background boxes.

4 Other Work

- 4.3 During the year, the Monitoring Officer has been available to provide support to questions raised by individuals.
- 4.4 Since the last meeting invitations have been made for presentations to Parish Councils to comment on the draft Code of Conduct and Social Media Guidance. In addition to the responses referred to in the report to committee on the 26th November 2018, a further response has been received:

To include Gender Reassignment be changed to Gender Identity.

- 4.5 The member induction programme is under review and is programmed to deliver induction training following the May 2019 elections

4.6 Proposals in relation to the Code of Conduct and Social Media Guidance are the subject of a separate report on this agenda.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance

There are no direct financial implications.

5.2 Equalities

All complaints are considered with reference to the Council's Equality scheme

5.3 Legal

There are no specific legal implications.

5.4 Corporate Priorities

Delivery of an effective Standards regime supports the Council's priority of *'Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life –Our residents'*

5.5 Other Implications

None

For more information contact:	Sanjit Sull Monitoring Officer ssull@rushcliffe.gov.uk 0115 9148215
Background papers Available for Inspection:	None.
List of appendices (if any):	Appendix A - Code complaints

Appendix A

Update on cases from 26th November 2018

Case Ref	Date received	RBC/Parish Council	Complainant	Independent Person consulted	Decision and date
	02/10/2018	Keyworth Parish Council	Parish Councillor	Yes	Investigation report received, MO and IP reviewing resolution with Subject Member.
	25/10/2018	Borough Council and Bingham Town Council	Borough/Town Councillor	Yes	Complaint review, no formal action.
	23/10/2018	Gotham Parish Council	Members of the public (three complainants)	Yes	Complaint review, no action.
	05/11/2018	Borough Council and Bingham Town Council	Borough /Town Councillor/ County Councillor	Yes	Complaint review, no formal action.

Summary of new cases from report to committee 26th November 2018

Case Ref	Date received	RBC/Parish Council	Complainant	Independent Person consulted	Decision and date
	07/11/2018	RBC	Member of the Public	Yes	Complaint review, no action.
	15/11/2018	Borough Council and Bingham Town Council	Town Councillor	No	Complaint review, no action.
	14/11/2018	Bingham Town Council	Borough /Town Councillor	No	Complaint review, no action.

Case Ref	Date received	RBC/Parish Council	Complainant	Independent Person consulted	Decision and date
	03.12.2018	Wysall and Thorpe in the Glebe PC	Member of the public	Yes	Complaint review, no action.
	18.12.2018 (linked complaint received 13.11.18)	Bingham Town Council x 3	Member of the public	Yes	1 x Complaint: no action, 1x Complaint, local resolution (apology) 1x Complaint review complete, options for determination being considered
	21.01.2019	Newton PC	Parish Councillor	Yes	Initial assessment stage