

QUARTERLY REPORT ON INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

To: Constitution and Ethics Committee

Date: 23rd June 2015

From: The Monitoring Officer

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: N/A

Key decision: No

Purpose: To brief the Constitution and Ethics Committee on the number and nature of the complaints received about Members under the Code of Conduct from 3rd March 2015 to 11th June 2015.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Constitution and Ethics Committee note the contents of this report.

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact</i>	
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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Localism Act (“the Act”) places a statutory duty on the County Council to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst its Members and co-opted Members. This includes the obligation on the County Council to have in place a Code of Conduct setting out the standard of conduct expected of Members when acting in their capacity as County Councillors.
- 1.2. The requirements of the Act are supported by Article 9 of the Constitution which also requires the Constitution & Ethics Committee to monitor the operation of the Code of Conduct and the complaints received under it.
- 1.3. This report serves to provide the Constitution & Ethics Committee with an overview of the complaints received under the Code of Conduct from 3 March 2015 to 11 June 2015.

2. OVERVIEW OF COMPLAINTS

- 2.1. Between 3 March 2015 and 11 June 2015 one new complaint against a Member was received by the Monitoring Officer. Following an initial consideration of this complaint, the Monitoring Officer and Independent Person concluded that there had been no breach of the Members’ Code of Conduct in respect of that complaint. Details of this complaint are set out in Appendix 1.

Source Documents	Location
Decision notice – Complaint against Cllr Loynes	Held by legal services, Shire Hall (Ref: (C) O-020173)

Report to the Constitution and Ethics Committee**Overview of complaints made against Members****3 March 2015 to 11 June 2015****Cllr Mervyn Loynes**

Complaint against:	Cllr Mervyn Loynes
Date of Complaint:	24 April 2015
Complainant:	Mr Howard Fall
Allegation:	Cllr Loynes breached the Code of Conduct in allegedly making 'personal disparaging and offensive' remarks about the Complainant at a meeting of Cambourne Parish Council on 7 April 2015.
Current Status:	Decided
Outcome:	The Independent Person concluded that there had been no breach of the Code of Conduct by Cllr Loynes. There was insufficient evidence adduced by the Complainant to substantiate the allegations.
Date of final decision:	18 May 2015