

Agenda Item No: 6

A REVIEW OF THE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED UNDER THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT TO 15 JANUARY 2018

To: **Constitution and Ethics Committee**

Meeting Date: **30 January 2018**

From: **LGSS Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer**

Electoral division(s): **All**

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 14 September 2017 to 15 January 2018**

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

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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 and 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 and Ethics Committee with an overview of the complaints received under the Code of Conduct from 14 September 2017 to 15 January 2018.

2. OVERVIEW OF COMPLAINTS

- 2.1. Since 14 September 2017 one new complaint against a Member has been received by the Monitoring Officer, has not yet been concluded. The complaint which was open at the date of writing the last report has been concluded.
- 2.2. Details of the complaint which has been concluded since 14 September 2017 are set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.3. The publication of details of complaints only takes place after conclusion of the complaint to reduce speculation on limited information, ensure there is no compromise of any assessment or investigation and that the Data Protection Act 1998 is complied with.

Source Documents	Location
Decision Notice Ref COR002/082 – Complaint against Councillor Amanda Taylor	Held by LGSS Law Limited and published on the Council's website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/contact-us/complain-about-a-councillor-or-co-opted-member/

APPENDIX 1

Complaint against:	Cllr Amanda Taylor
Date of Complaint:	2 August 2017
Complainant:	Cllr Bates
Allegation:	Disclosure of confidential information in breach of paragraph 3.1 of the Code of Conduct
Current Status:	Concluded
Outcome:	The Independent Person concluded that there was no evidence that the information disclosed was confidential at the time it was disclosed and therefore no further action to be taken.
Date of final decision:	21 September 2017