

A REVIEW OF THE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED UNDER THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT TO END OF MARCH 2019

To: **Constitution and Ethics Committee**

Meeting Date: **4 April 2019**

From: **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 28 February 2019 to 26 March 2019 along with details of other complaints which have been concluded.**

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 2 of the Constitution, Members of the Council, and by Part 5.1, Members’ Code of Conduct. The Constitution and Ethics Committee’s terms of reference give it authority 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 19 September 2018 when it last met to 19 November 2018.

2. OVERVIEW OF COMPLAINTS

- 2.1. Since 28 February 2019 one complaint has now been concluded and published on the council's website. Two other complaints are currently in progress and awaiting consultation with the council’s independent person.
- 2.2. Details of the complaint which has been concluded since 28 February 2019 are set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2. 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 Notices	Published on the Council’s website at https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/contact-us/complain-about-a-councillor-or-co-opted-member/