**Appendix 1**

## Code of Conduct Complaints – Annual Report

The tables below provide an anonymised summary of Code of Conduct complaints received and considered during the reporting period. Complaints relating to District Councillors are shown separately from those relating to town and parish councillors to assist the Committee in monitoring the operation of the Code across the area.

### Table 1: Headline complaints summary

| Complaints activity | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Complaints concluded during the previous reporting period | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Complaints brought forward from the previous reporting period | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New complaints received during the reporting period | 46 | 10 | 56 |
| **Total complaints considered during the reporting period** | **46** | **10** | **56** |
| Complaints concluded during the reporting period | 22 | 6 | 28 |
| Complaints outstanding at the end of the reporting period | 24 | 4 | 28 |

**Note:** "Complaints considered" includes complaints brought forward from the previous reporting period and new complaints received during the current reporting period. Where multiple complaints concern the same incident, these have been counted separately unless stated otherwise.

### Table 2: Outcome of complaints concluded

| Outcome | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. Outside the scope or jurisdiction of the Code | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| B. No further action following initial assessment | 19 | 0 | 19 |
| C. Informally resolved | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| D. Withdrawn by the complainant | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| E. Not progressed for another stated reason | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| F. Referred for formal investigation | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Outcome | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| G. Investigation concluded with no breach found | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| H. Investigation concluded with a breach found | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I. Referred to a hearing or standards sub-committee | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total complaints concluded** | **22** | **6** | **28** |

### Table 3: Principal nature of allegations

| Principal category of allegation | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. Failure to treat others with respect | 21 | 3 | 24 |
| B. Bullying, harassment and discrimination | 20 | 7 | 27 |
| C. Impartiality of officers of the Council | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D. Confidentiality and Access to Information | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| E. Bringing the Council into disrepute | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| F. Improper use of position | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| G. Use of local authority resources and facilities | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| H. Conduct outside the scope of the Code | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I. Other | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| **Total principal allegations** | **46** | **10** | **56** |

**Note:** Each complaint has been allocated to the category that most closely reflects its principal allegation. A complaint may contain more than one allegation or cite more than one provision of the Code. Consequently, the categories indicate the principal themes and are not intended to reproduce every element of each complaint.

### Table 4: Stage of outstanding complaints

| Current stage | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. Awaiting information or clarification | 12 | 0 | 12 |
| B. Initial assessment in progress | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| C. Independent Person being consulted | 1 | 0 | 1 |

| Current stage | District Councillors | Town and Parish Councillors | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| D. Informal resolution being explored | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| E. Formal investigation in progress | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| F. Investigation completed and decision pending | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| G. Hearing or standards sub-committee pending | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| **Total outstanding** | **24** | **4** | **28** |

**Note:** Outstanding complaints remain subject to the Council's adopted arrangements. No inference should be drawn from the fact that a complaint remains ongoing, and the inclusion of a complaint in this report does not indicate that a breach of the Code has occurred.