

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING	Standards' Committee	
MEETING	17th September 2015	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Report on Assessment of Complaints	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Annex 1 – Report on assessment of complaints		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to consider Annex 1 (report on assessment of complaints) and discuss any issues arising.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Committee consider the report.**

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 None.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Council is required to have in place adequate arrangements to assess complaints and deal with any further actions required.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 A table providing information on the complaints received since Maria Lucas, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Monitoring Officer & Council Solicitor joined Bath & North East Somerset Council, is attached as Appendix 1.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 To update the Standards' Committee on complaints received since June 2015.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 Not applicable.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	<i>Maria Lucas, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Monitoring Officer & Council Solicitor (01225) 395171</i>
Background papers	<i>List here any background papers not included with this report, and where/how they are available for inspection.</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

ANNEX 1 - LOCAL ASSESSMENT CASES - CURRENT POSITION - 8th SEPTEMBER 2015

Complaint Number	Date Received / Complainant	Against	Relevant provision of Code	Assessment	Decision reached	Current position
04-15 Dunkerton PC	18.05.15 P Cllr A	P Cllr B	1. Bullying/intimidation 2. Improperly conferring a disadvantage	Initial assessment by MO and IP – investigation	Currently being investigated together with 05a, 5b and 5c.15	ongoing
05a-15 Dunkerton PC	29.05.15 P Cllr C	P Cllr A	1. Bullying/intimidation 2. Improperly conferring a disadvantage 3. Disrespectful behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Currently being investigated together with 04, 5b and 5c.15	ongoing
05b-15 Dunkerton PC	29.05.15 P Cllr B	P Cllr A	1. Bullying/intimidation 2. Improperly conferring a disadvantage 3. Disrespectful behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Currently being investigated together with 04, 5a and 5c.15 as all relate to the same incident	ongoing
05c-15 Dunkerton PC	31.07.15 P Cllr A	P Cllr C	1. Bullying/intimidation 2. Confidential information disclosed 3. Improperly conferring a disadvantage – potential criminal offence 4. Disrespectful behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Currently being investigated together with 04, 5a and 5b.15. Delay caused by receipt of further complaint 05c.15.	ongoing

06-15 BANES	17.05.15 MoP	Cllr	Disrespectful behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	Complainant requested to provide further information	Awaiting complainant's response
07-15 BANES	01.06.15 MoP	Cllr	Disrespectful behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	No breach - too trivial to warrant further investigation	Decision 07.07.15
08-15 BANES	23.06.15 O	Cllr	Improper use of Council resources	Initial assessment by MO and IP	Breach - apology to be sent by Cllr	Decision Apology sent on 13.07.15
09-15 Chew Stoke PC	20.07.15 P Cllr	Cllr	Participated and voted at meeting despite having a DPI in the matter	Potential criminal offence	Referred to police	Police investigating
10-15 Paulton PC	18.08.15 P Cllr	P Cllr	Non-disclosure of DPI	Potential criminal offence	Referred to police	Police investigating
11-15 BANES	28.08.15 MoP	Cllr	Disrespectful behaviour	Awaiting assessment		Awaiting initial response from Cllr

Key –

P Cllr	Parish Councillor
MoP	Member of the Public
Cllr	BANES Councillor
O	Officer