

Standards Committee

Date: Thursday, 19th November, 2020

Time: 4.00 pm

**Venue: Virtual Meeting - Zoom - Public Access via
YouTube**

<https://www.youtube.com/bathnescouncil>

To: All Members of the Standards Committee

Independent Members: Dr Axel Palmer, Dr Cyril Davies and Deborah Russell

Parish/Town Councillors: Tony Crouch, Clive Fricker and Kathy Thomas

Bath and North East Somerset Councillors: Councillor Jess David, Councillor Sally Davis, Councillor Duncan Hounsell, Councillor Michelle O'Doherty and Councillor June Player

Independent Person: Tony Drew

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers

Press and public

The agenda is set out overleaf.



Enfys Hughes

Democratic Services

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NOTES

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Broadcasting at Meetings:-**

The Council will broadcast the images and sounds live via the internet
<https://www.youtube.com/bathnescouncil>

The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

4. **Public Speaking at Meetings**

The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group.

Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting. This means that for meetings held on Thursdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 5.00pm the previous Monday.

Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12942>

5. **Supplementary information for meetings**

Additional information and Protocols and procedures relating to meetings

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13505>

Standards Committee - Thursday, 19th November, 2020

at 4.00 pm via Zoom

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out on the Agenda.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTION

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

(a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.

(b) The nature of their interest.

(c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** *or* an **other interest**, (as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Chair will announce any items of urgent business accepted since the agenda was prepared under the Access to Information provisions.

6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS (COMPLAINTS MUST GO THROUGH THE STANDARDS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE)

7. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS RELATING TO THE GENERAL BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE

8. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17TH SEPTEMBER 2020 (Pages 5 - 8)

9. 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Pages 9 - 20)

10. REPORT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF COMPLAINTS (Pages 21 - 26)

11. WORKPLAN FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Pages 27 - 28)

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Enfys Hughes who can be contacted on 01225 394410.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

PRESENT:-

Independent Members: Dr Axel Palmer. Cyril Davies was present for minute item 22.

Parish Representatives: Clive Fricker and Kathy Thomas

Bath and North East Somerset Councillors: Jess David, Sally Davis, Duncan Hounsell and Michelle O'Doherty

Officers: Maria Lucas, Michael Hewitt, Jack Latkovic

Independent Person: Tony Drew

11 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair (Dr Axel Palmer) welcomed everyone to the meeting by explaining that this meeting is being held under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. The Council has agreed a protocol to cover virtual meetings and this meeting will operate in line with that protocol. The meeting has the same status and validity as a meeting held in the Guildhall.

12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTION

Councillor June Player and Deborah Russell (Independent Member) had sent their apologies for this meeting. Cyril Davies arrived for the last item on the agenda.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

14 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Chair informed the meeting that he has agreed to bring a report on a complaint received from a member of the public as urgent item. The Chair confirmed that all Members of the Committee have received the papers on this matter in advance of the meeting.

The Chair suggested that this item should be considered in exempt session as it dealt with personal information in relation to several officers and the complainant after the last item on the agenda. The Committee agreed with Chair's suggestion.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE

The Committee unanimously **AGREED** with the following resolution;

That, having been satisfied that the public interest test would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Scheduled 12A for the Act as amended.

Note: The Information Governance Manager has issued a certificate of exemption (attached as Appendix 1) in accordance to Access to Information Arrangements - Exclusion of access by the public to Council meetings.

15 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS (COMPLAINTS MUST GO THROUGH THE STANDARDS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE)

There were none.

16 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS RELATING TO THE GENERAL BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE

There were none.

17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9TH JULY 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18 REPORT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF COMPLAINTS

Maria Lucas (Monitoring Officer) introduced the report.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the assessment of complaints.

19 ANNUAL REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINTS

Maria Lucas took the Committee through the report, as printed.

Councillor Michelle O'Doherty said that the Council had been doing quite well in complaints department and asked how the Council would monitor outcomes from the recommendations received through Ombudsman's feedback.

Maria Lucas responded that the Council's Complaints Officer, who was employed by Audit West, monitored the Local Government complaints to Ombudsman. Appendix 2 of the report set out information on whether the Council complied with those complaints, which were analysed by the Complaints Officer. Maria Lucas also added that she met regularly with the Complaints Officer, to review complaints on a quarterly basis.

Councillor Jess David said that she welcomed the report. With regard to the last upheld complaint, which was about a parent complaining about the child's access to

education, whilst they were unable to attend school, Councillor David thought that some of the remedies that were suggested there were quite interesting and she asked whether this could be forwarded to the relevant Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel (Children) for inclusion in their forward plan.

The Committee welcomed this proposal from Councillor Jess David and would inform the Chair of this suggestion.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the Annual Review and note the determinations made by the Ombudsman.

20 PARISHES LIAISON MEETING - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Maria Lucas informed the Committee that under the Constitution she has the authority, to make minor amendments to the Constitution and then to bring those amendments to the attention of the Standards Committee. All other amendments must be agreed by Council.

This amendment was requested by the Parish Liaison Committee, and it was agreed by Maria Lucas in her capacity of the Monitoring Officer of the Council under these constitutional arrangements.

The Standards Committee noted the amendment as presented in the agenda.

21 WORKPLAN FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Maria Lucas took the Committee through the Workplan for Standards Committee.

The Committee agreed that the Annual Report of the Standards Committee should be considered at 19th November 2020, rather than 19th January 2021 meeting.

It was **AGREED** to have the Annual Report of the Standards Committee for 19th November 2020 (subject to its readiness).

22 REPORT ON COMPLAINT

The Chair invited Maria Lucas to take the Committee through the report.

The Committee decided that having considered the terms of reference of the Standards Committee it was outside the remit of Standards Committee to investigate this matter.

On a motion from Councillor Michelle O'Doherty, seconded by Councillor Duncan Hounsell, it was **AGREED** (unanimously) to decline the investigation of the complaint.

The meeting ended at 4.25 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING	Standards Committee	
MEETING	19 November 2020	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 9999
TITLE:	Standards Committee Annual Report 2019/2020	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1. Standards Committee Annual Report 2019/2020		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 To consider the Standards Committee Annual Report 2019/2020.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to;

2.1 The Standards Committee is asked to comment on the Standards Committee Annual Report 2019/2020 and agree to recommend it to Council.

3 THE REPORT

3.1 Appendix 1 summarises the work the Committee has carried out during the previous year for the consideration of the Standards Committee and Council. This report comprises the Annual Review covering the period April 2019 to March 2020, together with background information regarding the standards

regime established within Bath & North East Somerset Council. All references to 2019 - 2020 in the report refer to this time period.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The Standards Committee is not required to produce an annual report however it is good practice to do so.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 None

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 None.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 Not Applicable

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 Not Applicable

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 None

Contact person	Michael Hewitt, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Monitoring Officer & Council Solicitor (01225) 395124
Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

Standards Committee

Annual Report 2019 - 20

Chair's Foreword

The Standards Committee fulfils a most important role for Bath and North East Somerset Council and for the Parish and Town Councils within its area. The Committee members are all volunteers: some are Unitary Councillors; some are Parish or Town Councillors drawn from Parish or Town Councils in the Bath and North East Somerset Council area, whose nominations are facilitated by Avon Local Councils Association, and some are Independent Members, being independent members of the public. In addition, as legally required, the Authority appoints an 'Independent Person', to work alongside the Standards Committee and Monitoring Officer.

At the start of the period covered by the period of this report, following elections, a number of new members joined the Standards Committee. All committee members have given willingly and generously of their time and talents in approaching issues most thoughtfully and constructively. We are most grateful to them.

The following detailed report shows the range of matters within the scope of the Standards Committee. In the past year, there have been some 7 matters raised: of which initial assessments required 'no further action' to be undertaken on 5 occasions; 1 dealt with by informal resolution; and one matter was withdrawn. No matters were referred for investigation. To put these figures in context, the Standards Committee has within its purview, the unitary authority and 45 Parish and Town Councils: in total over 500 councillors.

In Bath and North East Somerset, the Standards Committee has three Independent Members: Dr Cyril Davies and Deborah Russell and myself, and in this authority, the Committee is chaired by an Independent Member. I am most grateful to all my colleagues for their help and support and commend the Monitoring Officer and her officers for their most professional and successful operation of the Standards regime.

Dr Axel Palmer
Chair of the Standards Committee

The Standards Committee

Introduction

The Standards Committee has agreed that it will submit an annual report summarising the work the Committee has carried out during the previous year for the consideration of Council. This report comprises the Annual Review covering the period April 2019 to March 2020, together with background information regarding the standards regime established within Bath & North East Somerset Council. All references to 2019-20 in the report refer to this time period.

1. Background information

The Code of Conduct for Elected and Co-opted Members

In 2012 BANES adopted a code required by The Localism Act 2011 setting out the conduct that is expected of elected and co-opted members of the Authority when they are acting in that capacity. The Code applies whenever a member (a) conducts the business of the Authority (including the business of their office as an elected councillor or co-opted member) or (b) acts, claims to act or gives the impression they are acting as a representative of the Authority. The Code is consistent with Nolan's Seven Principles of Public Life, and should be read in the light of those principles, namely that Councillors will act with selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty and leadership.

The Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct and for reporting any actual or potential breaches of the law and maladministration to the full Council and/or to the Cabinet (as set out in s.5(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989).

The Monitoring Officer and their team administer the local arrangements for addressing complaints made under the Code of Conduct. This includes the assessment of every complaint received under the Code of Conduct. Following consideration and consultation with the Authority's Independent Person and Chair of the Standards Committee, the Monitoring Officer decides whether the complaint will be investigated. The decision will be based on whether the allegation, if proved, would constitute a failure to observe the Code of Conduct and the application of the Council's adopted assessment criteria. The Monitoring Officer may also consider that a complaint can be reasonably resolved informally and will discuss this option with the complainant and subject member where appropriate.

Independent Persons

The Council has appointed an Independent Person who is invited to attend all meetings of the Standards Committee. The Council has access to a reserve Independent Person through informal arrangements with neighbouring local authorities. The Independent Person must be consulted by the Council before it makes a decision on a matter that has been referred to it for investigation; they can also be consulted by the Council in respect of a code of conduct complaint at any other stage; and can also be consulted by a member or co-opted member of the Council against whom a complaint has been made. It has been emphasised that the involvement and consultation of the Independent Person is important at all stages.

The Standards Committee

The Standards Committee is responsible for the promotion of ethical standards within the Council, helping to secure adherence to the Code; monitoring the operation of the Code; conducting hearings following investigation and determining complaints made under the Code. The Standards Committee's terms of reference are set out in the Council's Constitution in Part 5, Terms of Reference. The Committee conducts proceedings using Article 9 of the Constitution and the Authority's Local Arrangements for dealing with complaints under the Code of Conduct for Members. The Committee is also responsible for granting dispensations to Members.

Where a Final Report from an Investigating Officer recommends a finding that there is no breach of the Code, the Committee determines whether to accept the report; refer the report back to the Investigating Officer if it is considered incomplete; or refer the report to a hearing in accordance with the Authority's Local Arrangements for dealing with complaints under the Code of Conduct for Members.

Where a Final Report from an Investigating Officer recommends a finding that there has been a breach of the Code, the Committee undertakes a hearing in accordance with the Council's Local Arrangements for dealing with complaints under the Code. The Committee will determine the facts; if there has been a breach and any sanctions. It can also make recommendations to Council.

2. Training for Standards Committee Members and Independent Persons

Initial and refresher training on the duties and responsibilities of members serving on the Standards Committee of the Authority is important to ensure the probity and credibility of the Authority's decision making processes. Members are required to undertake basic training through the Authority's member induction programme, on election or re-election, and this is refreshed annually, before they can serve on the Standards Committee. Training is also provided for the Independent Persons appointed by the Authority in order to ensure they are able to carry out their role.

3. Standards Committee Membership 2018-19

In 2019/20 the Standards Committee comprised the following Members:

Councillors Jess David, Sally Davis, Duncan Hounsell, Michelle O'Doherty, June Player.
Parish Councillors Tony Crouch, Clive Fricker plus one vacancy.
Independent Members Dr Cyril Davies, Dr Axel Palmer (Chair), Deborah Russell.

4. The Authority's Independent Persons

The Authority's Independent Person is Tony Drew and the Council has access to a reserve Independent Person through informal arrangements with neighbouring local authorities.

5. Committee Meetings

At the start of each year the Standards Committee agrees its Work Programme/Action Plan

for the year, which is then monitored at meetings throughout the year. The Work Programme/Action Plan for 2019-20 is attached at Annex A to this report. Standard Committee sessions are scheduled every 2 months in advance. If not required, these are cancelled.

The Standards Committee met on:

- 4th July 2019
- 19th September 2019

6. Complaints under the Code of Conduct for Members and Co-opted Members for the last 5 years

i. Complaints by complainant

Type of complainant	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
BaNES Councillor	0	1	1	0	0	2
Parish / Town Councillor	8	0	0	1	2	11
Member of the public	16	9	13	15	5	58
Council Officer	n/a	n/a	1	1	0	2
Parish Clerk	0	0	0	3	0	3
Total	24	10	15	20	7	76

ii. Complaints by subject member

Subject of the complaint	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
BANES Councillor	11	7	11	13	0	42
Parish / Town Councillor	13	3	4	7	7	34
Total	24	10	15	20	7	76

iii. Complaints by type

Type of complaint	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
Failure to declare an interest	5	6	6	5	0	22
Bullying/failure to treat with respect	7	1	4	3	0	15
Bringing Council into disrepute	11	3	5	11	7	37
Improperly conferring advantage/disadvantage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disclosure of confidential information	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lack of respect	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	24	10	15	20	7	76

Note: A complainant may make several types of complaint about a councillor.

iv. Initial Assessments

Local Assessment Decisions	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
No Further Action	21	10	4	17	5	57
Informal Resolution	0	0	10	2	1	13
Referred for Investigation	3	0	1	1	0	5
Ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Withdrawn	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	24	10	15	20	7	76

v. Outcome of complaints

Outcomes	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
Other Action	0	0	0	0	2	2
Ongoing	1	0	2	0	0	3
Apology	1	0	0	0	0	1
No Action Required	9	0	1	0	5	15
Withdrawn	0	0	1	2	0	3
Breach	1	4	2	5	0	12
No Breach	12	6	9	13	0	40
Total	24	10	15	20	7	76

7. Review of Standards Committee Work Programme and Action Plan for 2019/20

The Standards Committee's Work Programme/Action Plan for 2019/20 is attached at Annex A. The Standards Committee met on 2 occasions during the year. At each meeting the Committee monitored its Work Plan and noted the current position of complaints using the Complaints Tracker.

In the 2018-19 Annual report the Committee advised that it had reviewed the "Local Government Ethical Standards" – a review by the Committee on Standards in Public Life and noted that the Council was already complying with the majority of its best practice recommendations. Following from that review, an advice note for Councillors on bullying and harassment was agreed to be recommended to Council and this was adopted by Council at its meeting on the 10 October 2019. New members of the committee joined in 2019 following the Local Government Elections in May 2019 and were trained on the work of the committee and the process for dealing with complaints. The Committee also considered the Annual Report on Commission for Local Administration in England (Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman) Complaints and produced the Annual Report of the Standards Committee.

8. Conclusion

The Committee has dealt with a wide variety of matters in the past year. The Committee's aim is to continue to develop and maintain the Authority's ethical governance framework for the benefit of the Authority and ultimately local people. The Committee is looking forward to the next year.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2019 - 20

Date of meeting	Title	Report author / responsible officer
4 th July 2019 (provisional)	Annual Review of Code of Conduct Report on assessment of Complaints Work plan for the Standards Committee	
19 th September 2019 (substantive)	Annual Report on Local Government Ombudsman complaints Annual Report of the Standards Committee Report on assessment of Complaints Work plan for the Standards Committee	
21 st November 2019 (provisional)	Cancelled	
16 th January 2020 (substantive)	Cancelled	
12 th March 2020 (provisional)	Postponed	
21 st May 2020 (substantive)	Cancelled	

9th July 2020 (provisional)	Annual Review of the Code of Conduct	
17th September 2020 (substantive)	Annual Report on Local Government Ombudsman complaints Annual report of the Standards Committee	

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING	Standards Committee	
MEETING	19th November 2020	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 and make any recommendations required.

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 An up-dated table providing information on the complaints received since the last report was sent to the Standards Committee in September 2020 is attached as Appendix 1 for the consideration of the Committee.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 To update the Standards' Committee on complaints received since September 2020.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 Not applicable.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 Not Applicable.

Contact person	Michael Hewitt, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Monitoring Officer & Council Solicitor (01225) 395124
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

Standards Committee - Assessment of Complaints September 2019

Complaint Number	Date Received	Complainant	Subject	Relevant provision of Code	Assessment	Date / Decision	Decision	Current Position
2015								
04-15 Dunkerton PC	18.05.15	P Cllr	P Cllr	Bullying/Intimidation. Improperly conferring a disadvantage	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Standards Hearing 10.12.15	No breach	Complete
05a-15 Dunkerton PC	29.05.15	P Cllr	P Cllr	Bullying/Intimidation. Improperly conferring a disadvantage. Disrespectful behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Standards Hearing 10.12.15	Breach	Complete
05b-15 Dunkerton PC	29.05.15	P Cllr	P Cllr	Bullying/Intimidation. Improperly conferring a disadvantage. Disrespectful behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Standards Hearing 10.12.15	No breach	Complete
05c-15 Dunkerton PC	31.07.15	P Cllr	P Cllr	Bullying/Intimidation. Disclosure of confidential information. Potential criminal offence. Disrespectful behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP - investigation	Standards Hearing 10.12.15	No breach	Complete
06-15 BANES	17.05.15	MoP	Cllr	Disrespectful behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP	23.09.15	No breach	Complete
07-15 BANES	01.06.15	MoP	Cllr	Disrespectful behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP	29.06.15	No breach	Complete
08-15 BANES	23.06.15	O	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour.	Initial assessment by MO and IP	08.07.15	Breach - apology made	Complete
09-15 Chew Stoke PC	20.07.15	P Cllr / MoP	P Cllr	Non disclosure of DPI.	Not proportionate for police to allocate further resources due to the limited public interest. Independent investigation.	1.3.16	Breach/NFA	Complete
10-15 Paulton PC	18.08.15	P Cllr	P Cllr	Non disclosure of DPI	Referred to police. Not proportionate for police to allocate further resources due to the limited public interest.	Standards Hearing 31.03.16	Breach	Complete
11-15 BANES	28.08.15	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	29.09.15	No breach	Complete
12-15 BANES	18.10.15	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	18.02.15	No breach	Complete
13-15 Shoscombe PC	05.11.15	P Cllrs	P Cllr	Bullying/Intimidation	Initial assessment that as cllr is no longer a councillor, no jurisdiction for complaint to be further investigated	20.12.15	No further investigation required	Complete
2016								
01-16 BANES	24.12.15	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP - cllr to send apology to Somerset Guardian	11.02.16	No breach	Complete
02-16 Hinton Blewett PC	04.01.16	MoP	P Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
03-16 Paulton PC	25.01.16	P Cllrs	P Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
04-16 Paulton PC	25.01.16	P Cllrs	P Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
05-16 Paulton PC	19.01.16	P Cllr	P Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
06-16 Paulton PC	19.01.16	P Cllr	P Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
07-16 BANES	26.01.16	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.03.16	No breach	Complete
08-16 BANES	26.01.16	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.03.16	No breach	Complete
09-16 Paulton PC	02.02.16	P Cllr	P Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	21.03.16	No further action	Complete
10-16 BANES	25.02.16	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.03.16	No breach	Complete
11-16 a,b,c High Littleton PC/BANES	25.08.16	MoP	P Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	17.10.16	No further action	Complete
12-16 a,b BANES	05.09.16	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	24.10.16	Breach/NFA	Complete
13-16 BANES	01.09.16	Cllr	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	24.10.16	Breach/NFA	Complete
14-16 BANES	26.08.16	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	24.10.16	No further action	Complete

KEY

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

Standards Committee - Assessment of Complaints September 2019

15-16 BANES	07.12.16	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	7.2.17	No further action	Complete
2017								
1.17 Chew Stoke PC	5.1.17	MoP	P Cllr	Bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	1.3.17	No further action	Complete
2.17 BANES	1.3.17	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour	Initial assessment by MO and IP	2.5.17	Breach / NFA	Complete
3.17 BANES	12.04.17	MoP	Cllr	Disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	16.06.17	No Breach	Complete
04-17 BANES	08.05.17	MoP	Cllr	Disrepute (breach of the Council's Code of Conduct on pre-election publicity)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	31.05.17	No further action	Complete
05-17 BANES	01.07.17	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour - bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	30.11.17	No breach	Complete
06-17 BANES	01.07.17	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour - bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	06.09.17	No breach	Complete
07-17 BANES	20.09.17	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour - bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	30.11.17	No breach - further action	Complete
08-17 BANES	22.09.17	MoP	Cllr	Inappropriate behaviour/non-disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	30.11.17	No breach - further action	Complete
09-17 BANES	09.10.17	CX	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP / Investigation	Standards Hearing 18.01.17	Breach	Complete
10-17 BANES	06.10.17	MoP	Cllr	Disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour - misuse of council resources)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	08.12.17	No breach	Complete
11-17 BANES	16.10.17	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	26.02.18	No breach	Complete
12-17 BANES	13.12.17	MoP	Cllrs	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	26.02.18	No breach	Complete
13-17 SSPC	10.11.17	MoP	P Cllr	Disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	23.04.18	No breach	Complete
2018								
01-18 HBPC a & b	07.02.18	MoP	P Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP / Investigation	Standards Hearing	Breach / NFA	Complete
02-18 HBPC	26.02.18	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	08.03.18	withdrawn	Withdrawn (closed)
03-18 BaNES	07.03.18	Cllr	Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	09.04.18	Breach / NFA	Complete
04-18 BPC a	06.04.18	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.06.18	Breach / NFA	Complete
04-18 BPC b	06.04.18	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.06.18	Breach / NFA	Complete
05-18 BPC	01.05.18	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.06.18	Breach / NFA	Complete
06-18 HBPC	02.06.18	P Cllr	P Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	23.07.18	Breach	Complete
07-18 BANES	08.06.18	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	31.07.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
08-18 BANES	09.07.18	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	02.08.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
09-18 BANES (various)	31.07.18	MoP	Cllrs	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	12.11.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
10-18 BANES (various)	31.07.18	MoP	Cllrs	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	12.11.18	Breach/NFA	Complete
11-18 BANES	24.08.18	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	07.10.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
12-18 PPC	24.09.18	Parish Clerk	P Cllrs	Bullying and failing to treat councillors with respect	Initial assessment by MO and IP / Investigation	20.11.18 / 29.05.19.	No breach / recommendations	Complete
13-18 (a) & (b) BPC	01.10.18	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	20.11.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
14-18 BANES	01.10.18	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (Inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	20.11.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
15-18 (a) & (b) & (c) & (d) - BANES	12.10.18	MoP	Cllrs	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	20.11.18	No breach/NFA	Complete
16-18 BANES	15.10.18	MoP	Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	12.02.19	No breach/Attends training	Complete
17-18 BANES(various)	06.12.18	MoP	Cllrs	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	12.02.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
2019								
01-19 BANES	08.01.19	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by M) and IP	12.02.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
02-19 BPC	08.01.19	MoP	P Cllr	Bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	07.05.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
03-19 BANES	18.02.19	MoP	Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	11.04.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
04-19 HBPC	24.02.19	Parish Clerk	P Cllr	Bullying	Initial assessment by MO and IP	30.05.19	Discontinued	Complete
05-19 BANES	12.03.19	O	Cllr	Lack of respect	Initial assessment by MO and IP	03.06.19	Withdrawn	Complete
06-19 HBPC	04.04.19	P Cllr	P Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	05.06.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
07-19 BPC	09.04.19	MoP	P Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	25.08.19	Breach/NFA	Complete
08-19 PPC	11.06.19	MoP	P Cllr	Bringing council into disrepute	Initial assessment by MO and IP	01.07.19	Not acting in capacity as a cllr. Withdrawn.	Complete
09-19 PwPPC	24.06.19	P Cllr	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP - Independent Investigator appointed	25.10.19	No breach	Investigator recommended mediation

KEY

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

Standards Committee - Assessment of Complaints September 2019

10-19 (a) and (b) EHPC	01.09.19	MoP	P Cllrs	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	03.11.19	No breach/NFA	Complete
11-19 PPC	24.11.19	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	06.01.2020	No breach/NFA	Complete
2020								
01-20 BPC	10.01.20	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by external MO and IP	01.07.20	NFA	Investigator recommended mediation
02-20 RTC	28.04.20	Parish Clerk	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	02.07.20	Investigation	Discontinued as subject no longer a councillor
03-20 RTC	25.04.20	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	08.06.20	No Breach	Complete
04-20 BANES	19.05.20	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	08.06.20	No Breach	Complete
05-20 BANES	11.06.20	MoP	Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	06.07.20	No Breach	Complete
06-20 RTC	22.06.20	MoP	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)	Initial assessment by MO and IP	06.8.20	No Breach/NFA	Complete
07-20 PSJPC	14.07.20	Cllr	P Cllr	disrepute (inappropriate behaviour)				Withdrawn
08-20 BANES	27.07.20	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP	02.11.20	No Breach/NFA	Complete
09-20 BPC	10.08.20	MoP	P Cllr	Lack of respect	Initial assessment by external MO and IP			On-going
10-20 BPC	23.09.20	MoP	P Cllr	Lack of respect	Initial assessment by external MO and IP			On-going
11-20 BANES	25.09.20	MoP	Cllr	Non disclosure of interest	Initial assessment by MO and IP			On-going
12-20 BANES	25.09.20	P Cllr	Cllr	Lack of respect	Initial assessment by MO and IP			On-going
13-20 BPC	29.10.20	MoP	P Cllr	Lack of respect	Initial assessment by MO and IP			On-going

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O - Officer

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Report title	Report author
Thursday 17th September 2020 4pm	
Annual Report on Local Government Ombudsman complaints	Maria Lucas
Thursday 19th November 2020 4pm	
Annual report of the Standards Committee	Michael Hewitt
Tuesday 19 th January 2021 4pm	
Tuesday 13 th April 2021 4pm	
Tuesday 13 th July 2021 4pm	
Annual Review of the Code of Conduct	Michael Hewitt
Tuesday 12 th October 2021 4pm	
Annual Report on Local Government Ombudsman complaints Annual report of the Standards Committee	Michael Hewitt
Tuesday 11 th January 2022 4pm	

Tuesday 12 th April 2022 4pm	
Tuesday 12 th July 2022 4pm	
Annual Review of the Code of Conduct	Michael Hewitt
Tuesday 11 th October 2022 4pm	
Annual Report on Local Government Ombudsman complaints Annual report of the Standards Committee	Michael Hewitt

Every meeting – Report on the assessment of complaints
Workplan