

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Standards Update</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> September 2018</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Lead for Law and Monitoring Officer</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis</b>	<b>Tel:</b> <b>01273 29-1500</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Abraham.ghebre-ghiorghis@brighton-hove.gov.uk</b>	
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

1.1 This Report updates Members on Standards-related matters.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the Committee notes the information provided in this Report on member complaints.

**3. MEMBER COMPLAINTS****3.1 Complaints resolved since last Update**

3.2 One complaint which had been received in at the time of the last Report was made the subject of preliminary enquiries which aimed to ascertain when and where the conduct complained of allegedly took place. As the complainant did not provide necessary information despite being given ample opportunity to do so, that complaint was determined by a decision to take no further action.

3.3 The parties in the above matter have been notified of the outcome and that complaint is now at an end.

**3.4 Complaints awaiting resolution**

3.5 The complaint referred to as 'complaint no 5' in the last two Update reports is yet to be resolved. So too is a second outstanding complaint from the last Update which alleged disrespectful conduct. Additional information has been sought from the complainant regarding the latter complaint, which will be progressed as soon as possible.

3.6 A third complaint, received in since the last Update report, remains outstanding at the current time. Both it and the complaints referred to in para 3.5 above remain at preliminary assessment stage. Updates will be provided to this Committee once further progress in relation to them is made.

#### **4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The Council is obliged under the Localism Act to make arrangements for maintaining high standards of conduct among members and to make arrangements for the investigation of complaints. The current arrangements and the proposals in this Report reflect this. No alternative proposals are suggested.

#### **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 No need to consult with the local community has been identified.

#### **6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this Report, which aims to assist the Committee in discharging its responsibilities for overseeing that high standards of conduct are maintained in a way which is compliant with local requirements.

#### **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendation in this Report. All activity referred to has been, or will be, met from existing budgets.

Finance Officer Consulted: James Hengeveld

Date: 06/09/18

##### Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The Standards functions delegated to this Committee include responsibility for ensuring that members observe high ethical standards when performing their duties. This report aims to assist this Committee in its discharge of those functions.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson

Date: 04.09.18

##### Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this Report

##### Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 There are no sustainability implications arising from this Report

##### Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.5 None

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

None

### **Documents in Members' Rooms:**

None

### **Background Documents:**

None

