

Appendix 1: Complaint data

Table 1: Complaints previously reported to this Committee (at its January 2023 meeting)

Case No	Date	Status of complaint	If concluded, basis on which decision was taken	Complaint Topic	Additional notes
				<i>*note see end of table 2 for key</i>	
A/2022	January 2022	Ongoing	Not concluded.	D	Following a formal investigation which resulted in the investigating officer's indicative finding that one or more breach(es) of the Code of Conduct had occurred, and having consulted with one of the Independent Persons, the Monitoring Officer decided to refer the complaints to a cross party Standards Panel for determination. However a date on which all Panel members were able to attend could not be identified before the start of the pre election period on 17.3.23. As a result, the complaint has not been determined.
E/2022	February 2022	Ongoing	Not concluded.	D	As per A/2022 above
J/2022	February 2022	Ongoing	Not concluded.	D	As per A/2022 above
W/2022	October 2022	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Complaint ultimately determined by decision that – although the member's communications had potential to breach the Code – it would not be in the public interest to refer this complaint for formal investigation.	B	The complaint alleged that the member's responses to them on a ward matter had breached the Code.

X/2022	October 2022	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Complaint ultimately determined by decision that – although the member’s communications had potential to breach the Code – it would not be in the public interest to refer this complaint for formal investigation.	B	The complaint alleged that the member’s responses to them on a ward matter had breached the Code.
Z/2022	October 2022	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence was identified regarding those parts of the complaint which alleged incorrect process. While an email comm was found to raise concerns that appropriate standards of respectfulness had not been observed, it was not considered to be in the public interest to refer this part of the complaint for formal investigation.	A	Multi faceted complaint regarding a member’s activities in their ward which required information to be obtained from a series of sources at preliminary assessment.

Table 2: Complaints received in since [the Report to the January 2023 meeting of this Committee](#)

Case No	Date	Status of complaint	If concluded, basis on which decision was taken	Complaint Topic	Additional notes
				<i>* note see end of table 2 for updated key</i>	
A/2023	Jan - Feb 2023	Remains at preliminary assessment stage	N/A	A	Complainant alleged that member had acted in a way toward them which exhibited prejudice and bias.
B/2023	Jan 2023	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence of conduct contrary to the Code was identified to merit referral of complaint for formal investigation.	A	Complainant alleged disrespectfulness and rudeness by the member during a disagreement while they were canvassing.

C/2023	Jan 2023	Decision taken to refer complaint for formal investigation.	N/A	A	Complainant alleged that member had engaged in conduct contrary to the Code which failed to meet appropriate standards of respect and courtesy.
D/2023	Feb 2023	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence of conduct contrary to the Code was identified to merit referral of complaint for formal investigation.	B	Complaint made by one member against another alleged that comments made during a Council meeting about the political party of which the complainant was a member were disrespectful and abusive.
E/2023	Feb 2023	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence of conduct contrary to the Code was identified to merit referral of complaint for formal investigation.	B	Complaint made by one member against another alleged that the comments made during a Council meeting about the political party of which the complainant was a member were disrespectful and abusive.
F/2023	Feb 2023	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence of conduct contrary to the Code was identified to merit referral of complaint for formal investigation.	B	Complainant alleged that the way in which the member responded to a member of the public during a Council meeting failed to exhibit the appropriate standards of respect and courtesy.
G/2023	Feb 2023	Determined by decision to take no action at preliminary assessment stage	Insufficient evidence of conduct contrary to the Code was identified to merit referral of complaint for formal investigation.	B	Complainant alleged that the way in which the member responded to a member of the public during a Council meeting failed to exhibit the appropriate standards of respect and courtesy.
H/2023	March 2023	Remains at preliminary assessment stage	N/A	A	Complainant alleges rudeness and a lack of courtesy toward him in relation to a matter which should have been referred to Council officers.
I/2023	March 2023	Remains at preliminary assessment stage	N/A	A	Complaint alleges that the member's communications via social media were misleading and did not accurately represent the Council's decisions.
J/2023	March 2023	Remains at preliminary assessment stage	N/A	A	Complaint by one member against another alleges that a social media post about standing for re-election breached the Code

					in the way in which it referred to the complainant.
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Key to Complaint topics

NB tracked changes indicate updated (more inclusively worded) description of topic A

Code	Description of type of conduct complained about
A	Complaints about members' <u>conduct in their wards, including when discharging</u> ing <u> of their ward responsibilities (including by or otherwise communicating with constituents or other stakeholders).</u>
B	Complaints about comments or conduct either at council meetings, or at meetings at which members are representing BHCC
C	Complaints about conduct relating to council business or other members made outside council meetings, including on social media
D	Complaints about a member's conduct or position on an issue which is not council business or a ward matter, including conduct or a statement reported in the press or made on social media

