

SUMMARY OF CURRENT COMPLAINTS 16 JUNE 2016

The following alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct are currently being dealt with under the Council’s complaints process or have been concluded since the last report to the Standards Committee.

Ref No	Complainant	Subject Member	Category of Complaint	Progress/Outcome
2015/07(i)	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Inappropriate comments and behaviour at a Council meeting. <i>(Failure to act with integrity and to promote and support high standards of conduct).</i>	Original complaint withdrawn by complainant and new complaint submitted. Ref 2015/07(ii).
2015/07(ii)	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Inappropriate comments and behaviour at Council meetings, in e-mails and to the press. <i>(Failure to act with integrity and to promote and support high standards of conduct).</i>	On hold pending the outcome of the mediation process to be undertaken on complaint ref: 2016/03.
2016/02	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Offensive personal remarks made at council meeting in October 2015	“On hold” pending outcome of the mediation session being arranged between the complainant and the subject member about ref 2016/03.
2016/03	A Parish/Town Clerk	A Parish/Town Councillor	Inappropriate comments, questions and behaviours, including submission of various complaints.	Initial, separate mediation meetings with the complainant and the subject member being arranged for 15 June 2016.

Ref No	Complainant	Subject Member	Category of Complaint	Progress/Outcome
2016/04	Head of Contact Centre, Wyre BC	A Wyre BC Councillor	Possible inaccurate submission of a benefit claim	Legal advice received that the subject member was not acting in their capacity as a Councillor when the alleged offence took place. Still not yet known what action the Department for Work and Pensions is going to take.
2016/05	Head of Contact Centre, Wyre BC	A Wyre BC Councillor	A Council Tax/Business Rates issue	Outcome of an investigation by another agency awaited before considering whether there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct.
2016/06	A Member of the public	A Wyre BC Councillor	<p>“Breach of trust”.</p> <p><i>(Failure to act with integrity and to promote and support high standards of conduct).</i></p>	<p>Initial tests considered by MO and IP (BP) on 7/3/16.</p> <p>Further information obtained from the complainant and the subject member interviewed.</p> <p>MO and IP decided that comments made by the subject member did not amount to a breach of the Code and that there was insufficient evidence to conclude that other allegations made in the complaint amounted to a breach of the Code.</p> <p>Decision letter sent 10 May 2016. No further action to be taken.</p>

Ref No	Complainant	Subject Member	Category of Complaint	Progress/Outcome
2016/07	A Wyre BC Councillor	9 Wyre BC Councillors	<p>Failure to follow correct procedures at a Committee meeting.</p> <p><i>(Failure to comply with requirement to be as open as possible about decisions and actions)</i></p> <p>Linked to complaint Ref 2015/10</p>	<p>Initial tests considered by MO and IP (BP) on 7/3/16.</p> <p>MO and IP met with the complainant to discuss various issues raised, to clarify the outcome sought and to consider possible ways forward.</p> <p>Various procedures being reviewed following events referred to in the complaint.</p> <p>MO and IP decided that no further action would be taken under the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>The complainant has subsequently posed further questions to the Monitoring Officer.</p>
2016/08	A Parish/Town Councillor	4 Parish/Town Councillors	"Bullying and harassment" and failure to follow correct procedures when conducting a grievance hearing.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/09	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	"Bullying and harassment". Also reference to financial and governance arrangements (referred to in complaint ref 2016/08 and a previous complaint)	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/10	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Failure to co-operate with an internal grievance process undertaken by the Parish/Town Council.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.

Ref No	Complainant	Subject Member	Category of Complaint	Progress/Outcome
2016/11	A member of the public (former Parish/Town Clerk)	2 Parish/Town Councillors	Offence and damage to reputation caused by unfounded allegations and inappropriate comments and behaviours	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/12	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Making incorrect statements, bringing the Council in to disrepute.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/13 (a) and (b)	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Making unfounded allegations and accusations.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/14	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Making sarcastic and unwarranted comments.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.
2016/15	A Parish/Town Councillor	A Parish/Town Councillor	Bullying behaviour, inappropriate comments and e-mails.	External person to be appointed to conduct an investigation on this and other complaints relating to the same Parish/Town Council.

Notes:

1. Complaints Ref 2015/07(i), 2015/07(ii), 2016/02 and 2016/03 relate to a single Parish/Town Council.
2. Complaints Ref 2016/08 – 2016/15 inclusive also all relate to a single (but different) Parish/Town Council.

Updated 06/06/16

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