

**Report of the Monitoring Officer**

<b>Member Code of Conduct Annual Complaints Report</b>
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1. Purpose of Report

To report to the Committee a summary of complaints under the Members' Code of Conduct between 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 and declarations of Gifts and Hospitality.

2. Recommendation

**The Committee is asked to NOTE the report.**

3. Detail

The Localism Act 2011 section 27 places the Council under a duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct. In discharging this duty, the Council is required to adopt a Code dealing with the conduct that is expected of its Members and Co-opted Members.

The Council adopted, with minor variation, the new model Code of Conduct developed by the Local Government Association on 12 July 2023. This Code continues to be considered fit for purpose, provides clarity on the behaviour expected of Members and reflects public expectation.

A summary of complaints under the Members' Code of Conduct between 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 is attached at the **Appendix**, this appendix also includes information on declarations of Gifts and Hospitality.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Interim Deputy Chief Executive were as follows:

There are no financial implications to consider for this report.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 places the Council under a duty to have a code of conduct for Members. A review of the above summary allows the Council to ensure its current ethical framework is met within the parameters of the Localism Act 2011. It is also conducive to promoting and maintaining the standards expected by the public.

6. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

7. Union Comments

Not applicable.

8. Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

As there is no change to policy an equality impact assessment is not required.

11. Background Papers

Nil.