

**South Lakeland District Council**  
**Standards Committee**  
**17 April 2018**  
**Code of Conduct Complaints**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>CHAIRMAN:</b>      | <b>Councillor Chris Hogg - Chairman of Standards Committee</b>              |
| <b>REPORT FROM:</b>   | <b>Debbie Storr – Director of Policy and Resources (Monitoring Officer)</b> |
| <b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b> | <b>Debbie Storr – Director of Policy and Resources (Monitoring Officer)</b> |
| <b>WARDS:</b>         | <b>not applicable</b>   |
| <b>FORWARD PLAN:</b>  | <b>not applicable</b>   |

**1.0 EXPECTED OUTCOME**

- 1.1 That the Committee notes the report of the Monitoring Officer with regards to complaints under the Council’s Standards Arrangements from September 2017.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the report.**

**3.0 BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 Under the Council’s Standards Arrangements the Monitoring Officer reviews any complaint received about District or Parish/Town Councillors in respect of the Members’ code of conduct and, after consultation with the Independent Person, takes a decision as to whether it merits formal investigation.
- 3.2 Members were last updated in September 2017. At the date of writing this report one complaint regarding a parish/district councillor has been forwarded for investigation by the Monitoring Officer. With regard to the discussion reported at the last meeting with regard to an alleged failure to declare an interest, following further correspondence with the complainant this has been passed to the local constabulary.
- 3.3 Members are asked to note the report.

**4.0 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Not applicable – the report is to note.

**5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 5.1 There are no alternative options, the report is to note.

**6.0 LINKS TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

- 6.1 Good governance underpins the Council’s achievements of its Council Plan priorities and objectives.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 7.1 Financial and Resources

7.1.1 There are no additional financial resource implications.

### 7.2 Human Resources

7.2.1 Not applicable.

### 7.3 Legal

7.3.1 The Council is required to ensure it accords with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

7.3.2 The Council has adopted Standards arrangements within which any complaints against Members are considered. There are no issues to raise in this report.

### 7.4 Social, Economic and Environmental

7.4.1 Not applicable.

### 7.5 Equality and Diversity

7.5.1 There are no equality issues to raise.

### 7.6 Risk

| <b>Risk</b>   | <b>Consequence</b>                                 | <b>Controls required</b>  |
|---|--|---|
| That the Council fails to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 | Challenge to the Council's governance arrangements | Ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure compliance with the legislation. |

## CONTACT OFFICERS

Report Author – d.storr@southlakeland.gov.uk

## APPENDICES ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT

None

## TRACKING INFORMATION

| <b>Assistant Director</b>              | <b>Portfolio Holder</b> | <b>Solicitor to the Council</b> | <b>SMT</b>                                     | <b>Scrutiny Committee</b>                      |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
|  |                         | 3.4.18                          | n/a  | n/a  |
| <b>Executive (Cabinet)</b>             | <b>Committee</b>        | <b>Council</b>                  | <b>Section 151 Officer</b>                     | <b>Monitoring Officer</b>                      |
| n/a                                    | 17.4.18                 | n/a                             |  | author   |
| <b>Human Resource Services Manager</b> | <b>Leader</b>           | <b>Ward Councillor(s)</b>       | <b>Use these boxes for additional tracking</b> | <b>Use these boxes for additional tracking</b> |
| n/a                                    | n/a                     | n/a                             |  |  |