

Complaints Received during 2024

Resolved at Initial Assessment Stage

	Ref	Complainant (s)	Details of Complaint	Outcome	Review Requested	Review Outcome
1.	28.06.2024	Councillor	<p>Neither of the councillors responded to an email from the complainant on 11 November 2022 about a fallen tree incident and they also failed to respond to a follow up email the complainant sent to them on 25 November 2022</p> <p>The Cllr was allegedly speaking about a fellow Cllr on public transport in a derogatory, disrespectful, and inflammatory manner.</p>	<p>Decision under Initial Assessment criteria.</p> <p>Members against whom the allegation has been made has remedied or made reasonable endeavours to remedy the matter and the complaint does not disclose sufficiently serious potential breaches of the Code to merit further consideration.</p> <p>No connection was found between what was allegedly said and the individual’s role as a Councillor; nor gave the impression they were acting as a Cllr. Accordingly, the Cllr was not acting in their official capacity as a Member of the Council and consequently complaint falls outside of the scope of the Code complaints process.</p>	No	N/A
2.	22.11.24	Member of Public	An account of a conversation between a resident’s	Decision under Initial Assessment criteria.	No	N/A

Summary of Member Code of Conduct (MCC) Complaints, Appendix A

			<p>partner and a member of staff of the developer at a consultation meeting, for a proposed development, which indicated that a Cllr may have brought influence of an improper nature on the planning process.</p> <p>Cllr “behaved in a threatening manner, spread false allegations and behaved in a bullying and harassing manner”, in addition failed to disclose gifts received, namely Krispy Kreme donuts</p>	<p>Documents disclosed to support allegations did not disclose a breach of the Code, or “sufficiently serious potential breaches of the Code to merit further consideration.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Resolved at Assessment Stage

1.	02.07.2024	Member of Public	<p>Alleged that whilst canvassing during the elections, Cllr defamatory statements in the public domain and circulated false and defamatory information on social media.</p>	<p>Decision under Assessment Criteria.</p> <p>The post was made during the pre-election period and designed to affect support in the elections. Aside from their profile name referencing ‘Cllr’ there was no link within the individual posting or thread to their role as a councillor or to local authority business.</p> <p>No breach of the code.</p>	Yes	Not upheld
2.	26.07.24	Member of Public	<p>Cllr had not responded to communications and was “aggressive towards to the</p>	<p>Decision under Assessment Criteria.</p>	Yes	Not upheld

Summary of Member Code of Conduct (MCC) Complaints, Appendix A

			complainant both physically and verbally” which resulted in both him and the Cllr calling the police	Insufficient evidence to substantiate an allegation that the Cllr was harassing the complainant. On the contrary, information submitted by the Cllr demonstrated they had raised concerns in relation to the harassment, intimidation and safety arising from the complainant’s conduct preceding this complaint. On the balance of probabilities there has been no breach of the Code		
3.	24.07.24	Member of staff	Cllr upon receiving a PCN behaved in such a manner that it breached the Member’s Code of Conduct in terms of respect, failing to maintain a high standard of conduct and conducting themselves in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing their office into disrepute.	Decision under Assessment Criteria: Complaint upheld. Cllr made a written and personal apology, but nonetheless the breach was considered so serious sanctions were imposed, which included a report for information to the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee.	No	
4.	24.09.24	Member of staff	Complaint re the advice given by a Cllr to a retail outlet and that the Cllr failed to maintain a high standard of conduct, failed to treat officers with respect, compromised the impartiality of those who work for and or on behalf of the council	Currently under investigation	n/a	n/a

Summary of Member Code of Conduct (MCC) Complaints, Appendix A

			and used their position as a member improperly to confer of, or secure for any other person an advantage.			
--	--	--	---	--	--	--